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Title: A study on the attitudes of qualified nurses working in rehabilitation care setting towards nursing audit in Hong Kong

ABSTRACT

The aim of this research study was to investigate the attitudes of qualified nurses towards nursing audit in rehabilitation care setting in Hong Kong. The target samples were qualified nurses ranking from Department Operation Manager, Ward Manager, Nursing Officers, Nurse Specialist, Registered Nurses and Enrolled Nurses who were working in 7 general rehabilitation wards of the study hospital were surveyed. A self-reported questionnaire survey was administered. The instrument developed by Ko (2000) at the University of Birmingham named 'Questionnaire on Qualified Nurses' Attitudes towards Nursing Audit' was used to measure their attitudes towards nursing audit. A pilot study was conducted to test the validity and reliability of instrument. Voluntary participation and anonymity were assured. The questionnaires were distributed to nurses after obtaining approval from the studied hospital (Kowloon Hospital). Out of the 180 questionnaires were distributed, 107 completed questionnaires had been returned. The response rate 59.4% might reflect that majority of nurses were eager to express their view on nursing audit. Software Statistical Package for the Social Science was used to analyze the collected data. Independent t-test was applied to identify the influences of audit training and participation in nursing audit. Pearson correlation coefficients was applied to reveal the statistically significant correlation between nurses' knowledge on nursing audit and their willingness to be involved in nursing audit, and perception about nursing audit at $p \sim 0.05$ level. Furthermore, Spearman correlation test was employed to explore relationship between lengths of service with the willingness index and perception index at $p \sim 0.05$ level. The findings of the study was to obtain invaluable information for the hospital management level as references to plan the future way for improving the current approach of nursing audit and thus enhancing the quality of care provided.