

**Abstract**

**Original Article**

**The Approaches and Attitudes of Nurses on Clinical Handover**

**Serap Parlar Kilic, RN, PhD**

Associate Professor, Firat University Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Internal Medicine Nursing, Elazig, Turkey

**Nimet Ovayolu, RN, PhD**

Professor, Gaziantep University Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Internal Medicine Nursing, Gaziantep, Turkey

**Ozlem Ovayolu, RN, PhD**

Associate Professor, Gaziantep University Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Internal Medicine Nursing, Gaziantep, Turkey

**Mehmet Hayrullah Ozturk, RN**

Mardin State Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine Clinic, Mardin, Turkey

**Correspondence:** Serap Parlar Kilic, Associate Professor, Firat University Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Internal Medicine Nursing, Elazig, Turkey

E-mail: serap.parlar27@gmail.com

**Abstract**

**Background:** A patient handover is a critical process in health care services in which nurses are typically engaged several times in each working day.

**Aim:** The purpose of this study was to determine the approaches and attitudes of nurses regarding clinical handover in Turkey.

**Method:** This study, planned as descriptive and cross sectional, was conducted between April and July 2013 in seven institutions located in a city of Turkey. The sample group consisted of a total of 480 nurses. A personal information form and a questionnaire on clinical handover were used in this study.

**Results:** In this study, the positive aspects of clinical handover mostly indicated by the nurses were as follows; "Simplifies the follow-up of patient information", "Simplifies the acquisition of information about the patient and the disease" and "Gives an opportunity to get information that I did not know or did not understand" (respectively 80.2%, 74.2%, 67.7%). The negative aspects of clinical handover mostly specified by the nurses were as follows; "Clinical handover takes too much time" (24.4%) and "increases work load" (14.4%).

**Conclusions:** It was determined that nurses indicated that while clinical handover had advantages such as the acquisition of information about the patient and the disease and the follow-up of patient information, it had disadvantages such as taking too much time and increasing the work load.

**Key Words:** Bedside handover, clinical handover, communication, nursing handover, nurse