ORIGINAL PAPER

Nurses’ Tendency of Malpractice in Turkey

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Abstract

Background: Nurses main role they play in the health care team is to serve as a key guardian of patient safety. Aim: This research was carried out as a descriptive study in order to determine nurses’ tendency of malpractice in Turkey. Methods: Seventy eight (78) nurses who are working in a randomly selected hospital from five hospitals in Giresun city centre were involved in the study. During data collection ‘Information Form for Nurses’ and ‘Malpractice Tendency Scale’ were used. Results: The weekly working hours of the nurses are found out to be 53.6±7.9 hours. It is also determined that the nurses’ highest point average of the scale related to the subtitles is “Drug and Transfusion Applications” (X =4.98±0.11) and the lowest average is “Prevention of Falling” (X =4.70±0.45). Conclusion: The present study showed that the weekly working hours of the nurses are too much. Moreover, it is seen that the points of “Prevention of Falling” and “Communication” subtitles of the malpractice scale is low and the possibility of making mistake is high for the nurses.

Key Words: Malpractice, Medication error, Nurse, Nursing practice, Patient safety