

Abstract

Original Article

## Surgical Smoke, Me and My Circle

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### Abstract

**Background:** Surgical smoke can cause some problems such as headache, nausea, irritations to the eyes and respiratory tract on nurses working in the operating room.

**Aims:** The aim of this study is to determine the status of the exposure to the surgical smoke, the negative effects of it and the responses taken from family-members.

**Methodology:** This study was carried out between April 1<sup>st</sup>-May 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 on 54 nurses working in operating room units at two big university hospitals.

**Results:** There was any smoke evacuation device in both hospital operating rooms and aspiration catheters were used instead of them. The most negative effect was throat irritation and there was a significant difference between being scrub and having this effect ( $p<0.05$ ). Nurses had these effects 50% after electro-surgeries and 62.7% of their family-members gave any feedback about surgical smoke when they return home.

**Conclusions:** The results of this study demonstrated that aspiration catheters used as an alternative smoke evacuating method are not effective and complete evacuation of surgical smoke is necessary.

**Keywords:** Family; Nurses; Operating rooms; Smoke; Surgery