

INTRODUCTION

Nurses play a key role in a peritoneal dialysis program, as it is their responsibility to educate, to provide a better and quality of care for their patients

The need for autonomous and professional nurses with high problem-solving skills, who can think independently and make right decisions, is ever increasing. In order to be professional, a nurse needs to possess critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and clinical judgment skills.

In order to provide high-quality care for complex patients, nurses should be able to identify and solve the patient's problems.

The problem-solving approach should be adopted for making a good clinical decision and it is expected to have good problem-solving skills.

For this reason, the nurse, who provides care for individuals with various problems and who has to solve the conflicts that occur in the clinical environment, is expected to have good problem-solving skills.



This research was conducted with the aim of determining the problem solving skills of the dialysis nurses.

We aimed to find the answers for these questions

What is the problem solving approach of dialysis nurses?

Are there any differences between the peritoneal dialysis nurses and the problem solving abilities of the hemodialysis nurses?

What are the factors affecting problem solving skills?

METHOD

Study conducted on January - February 2016.

Fourty seven dialysis nurses enrolled in the study.

The study was approved by local ethic committee.

“Personal Information Form”and “Problem Solving Inventory”(PSI) scale used to obtain the data.

“Personal Information Form” contains information regarding to age, gender, professional experience, education status, workplace and number of the patients being care.

“Problem Solving Inventory” (PSI) is a scale consisting 35 items and includes three dimensions. These dimensions are problem-solving confidence (PSC), which measures the person's beliefs about ability to solve new problems; approach–avoidance (AA), measures the ability to review initial problem-solving efforts for use in the future and to conduct an active search for different alternative; and personal control (PK) expresses the ability to maintain control during problematic situations. The average score is 80 points. Higher total scores indicate that the person perceives his/her problem-solving skills as insufficient, lower total scores indicate that the person perceives his/her problem-solving skills as sufficient.

Data were analyzed using the SPSS program. The confidence interval was accepted as 95%. Statistical methods, including number and percentage distributions, arithmetic means, t-tests, Wilcoxon tests and correlation analysis were used.

RESULTS

A total of 47 dialysis nurse (35 hemodialysis and 12 peritoneal dialysis nurse were included in the study. The mean age of the nurses was 33 ± 7.1 years. (HD nurses 31 ± 6.3 ; PD nurses $39 \pm 7,6$) The average working experience of the nurses in the field of dialysis was 5,8 years for HD and 10.4 years for PD nurses.

The average PSI score of the nurses was found to be 81.2 ± 9.8 (for HD nurses 84.1 ± 9.3 ; for PD nurses $78,3 \pm 10.2$).

PSC subscale score average was found to be 22.1 ± 5.0 ,

AA subscale score average was found to be 37.6 ± 6.7 , and

PK subscale score average was found to be 18.9 ± 3.4 .

There was no statistical difference between PD and HD nurses total scores.

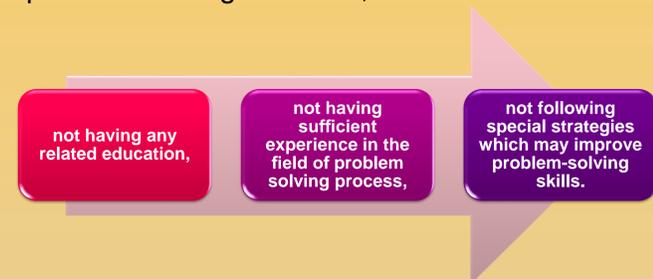
| | | PSC | AA | PK |
|------------|-------|------------|------------|------------|
| Total (47) | X/SD | 22.1+/-5.0 | 37.6+/-6.7 | 18.9+/-3.4 |
| HD (35) | X /SD | 22.4+/-5.0 | 38.0+/-6.2 | 19.6+/-3.4 |
| PD (12) | X/SD | 22.2+/-4.7 | 37.4+/-7.2 | 18.8+/-3.6 |

DISCUSSION

Nurses who have better problem-solving skills may increase the level of care provided for the patient, prevent and decrease the rate of complications.

In our study, it was determined that the **dialysis nurses have moderate levels of problem solving abilities.**

The reasons for having moderate levels of problem solving skills are;

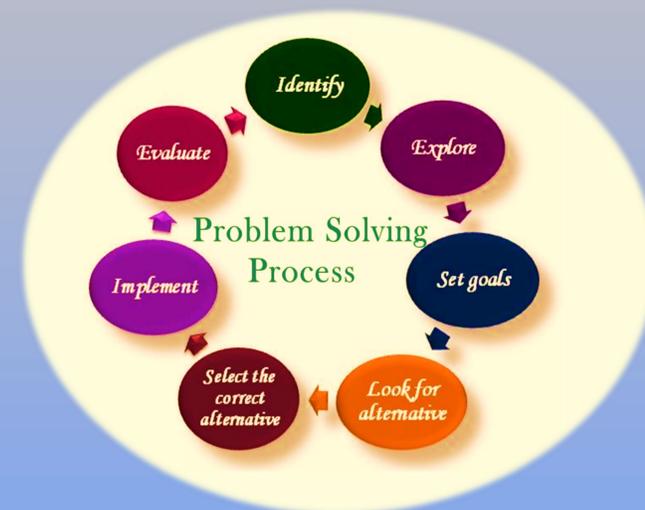


In this study, there was no significant difference between the HD and PD nurses problem-solving skills.

However, in the subgroup analysis it was determined that the pd nurses who have longer nursing experience have better AA scores.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the results obtained from the study, we aime to conduct the second phase. Special education will be organised based on “Problem-Based Training Model” and nurses will be trained periodically, thus with the increase of problem solving skills will be supprting to provide better and quality of care and reduce the rate of complications.



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