

Impact of sensory excitation performed by family members and nurses on the level of consciousness and vital signs in patients who are admitted to Intensive care unit: RCT

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In Critical Care Nursing

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Abstract

BACKGROUND:

The patients who are admitted to Intensive care unit (ICU) are exposed to sensory deprivation. Studies have shown that sensory excitation has a positive effect on preventing sensory deprivation. However the role of family members in sensory stimulation, compared with nurses has not yet been studied in Iran. The goal of this study is to compare sensory excitation delivered by family members and nurses on the level of consciousness and vital signs in patients who are admitted to ICU and the general health status of their families.

MATERIAL AND METHOD:

In this clinical trial design study, 69 patients admitted to ICU to Ashair hospital and Shafa hospital of Khorramabad within the time interval of late mar, to late sep, 2012 will be randomly assigned into two test and one control groups. The first group will receive sensory excitation by family members, The second group will receive sensory excitation by nurses and third group (control group) will receive no intervention. The intervention is Dyang sensory excitation program It will be applied two hours a day at 4-5 pm and 8-9 pm to the test groups for six days. For all subjects in these three groups, the level of consciousness and vital signs will be measured twice at 5 minutes before intervention and 30 minutes after intervention by the research assistant and Family members general health status was measured via interview before and after the 1st, 6th and 12th hourly intervention session in all groups using General Health Questionnaire . For data Analysis was used Repeated measures test, Anova test, Indipended-T-test and spss Software No. 18.

RESULTS:

A significant discrepancy was observed between experimental groups in average increasing in GCS and mean differences in vital signs before and after intervention based on covariance analysis test results ($P < 0.001$). In this regard family regarded the best medical group, nurse groupe was found the second rank and control group was found the last rank. But No significant statistical was found between average increasing in GCS mean differences in vital signs of patient before and after intervention during different days based upon results of Repeated measures test. T-test results showed that between the mean score of the general health of, families patients in test and control group On the sixth day after the intervention, there is a significant difference ($P = 0.003$). The mean of the test group (19/6522) than the control group (29/4783) is lower.

Conclusions:

Doing sensory excitation by family members is more effective in improving level of consciousness of coma patients than that by nurses. also attended Family members the patient bedside, can largely, reduced their concerns, thus it's suggested to provide conditions which the closest family member can do sensitive excitations program for patient hospitalized in ICU ward if receiving enough training

Key words: ICU, level of consciousness, family, sensory excitation