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Nurses' Attitude and Performance Regarding Spiritual Care

M. Farahaninia¹, M. Abbasi¹, E. JafarJalal¹

¹Community health nursing, Iran University of Medical sciences, tehran, Iran

Background: Although spirituality is among the important dimensions of human's existence and a lot of emphasis has been given to its role in promoting the level of health, the nursing care has been always focused on the physical dimension of the patients and little attention is being given to the spiritual needs.

Objective: the aim of this study is examining the attitude and performance of Spiritual Care among nurses working in Iran University of Medical sciences Hospitals.

Design: This was a cross-sectional study. Data gathering was done by using Nursing Spiritual Care Perspective Scale (NSCPS) questionnaires. One hundred and sixty six nurses participated in this study.

Results: The total mean of the nurses' attitude toward spiritual care (3.67 ± 0.51) indicated the nurses' positive attitude toward spiritual care. The nurses' practices regarding spiritual interventions indicated that they tend to do half of the spiritual interventions.

Conclusion: Appropriate educational methods must be used for teaching spiritual merits and increasing the nurses' competency in confronting with spiritual needs and offering spiritual care.

Key Words: Spiritual care, Spiritual care practice/attitude