

Original Article

Male Nurses: The Perspectives of the Hospitalized Children's Mothers

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Abstract

Background: All over the world, nursing is one of the occupations in which women are predominant. The increase in the number of male nurses reflects a change in the expectations of the society.

Aim: This descriptive study was conducted to find out the views of mothers whose children were in-patients getting treatment in hospital regarding men working as nurses.

Methods: The universe of the study consists of the mothers of children who were in-patients at the services of Ondokuz Mayıs University, Faculty of Medicine, Pediatric Hospital. The data was collected by the researches through a questionnaire developed in line with the literature. The questionnaire includes a total of 34 questions about the mothers' socio-demographic features and their views related to nurses and male nurses. Percentages and chi-square were used in the analysis of the data.

Results: 55.5% stated that nursing was not a job only for women, while 85.5% stated that male nurses should be in healthcare. 33.6% of the mothers who participated in the study stated that there should be male nurses to look after male patients and 20% stated that there should not be gender discrimination in the occupation of nursing. When the mothers who participated in the study were asked about the duties of male nurses, 20% stated that they examined patients. A statistically significant difference was found between some of the socio-demographic features of mothers and their views about male nurses working ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: It was determined that mothers' thoughts about male nurses were quite positive.

Key words: mother, occupation, nursing, gender, male nurse