The Impact of caring experiences of the patients with borderline personality disorder on psychiatric nurses

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摘要

Abstract

The purpose of this qualitative study was to explore the subjective perceptions of the impact of caring with the hospitalized patients with borderline personality disorder (BPD) on psychiatric nurses. A purposive sample of psychiatric nurses with experiences of caring with at least one hospitalized BPD patient was obtained at one leading psychiatric hospital in northern Taiwan. A semi-structured interview guide and audio-taped recording skill was employed, and data were analyzed by qualitative content analysis. Thirteen female nurses participated in this project. Eighty percent of them were aged between 26-35 (mean +/- SD = 31.77 +/- 4.92). Thirty-eight percent of nurses were registered professional nurses; 54% worked as psychiatric nurses for 5-7 years; and 69% ever took care of 3-4 subjects with BPD. Several impacts of the caring experiences on nurses were identified. They are as follows: (1) becoming more knowledgeable about the BPD patients' characteristics and the related nursing care; (2) having positive or negative motivation of nursing profession; (3) changing nurses' attitudes of interpersonal relationship; (4) valuing nurses' personal belongings; and (5) enhancing nurses' understanding and facilitating their personal growth. The result of this study may empower psychiatric nurses to better understand the BPD patients, and to increase nurses' motivation of caring them. It may also enhance the quality care for these patients and the nurses' sense of satisfaction.