The relationship between nurses’ attitude to cancer and patients’ perception of caring behaviors in oncology settings in Tehran hospitals

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Abstract:

Introduction: Cancer is one of the world’s greatest health problems and comprehensive nursing care to cancer patient is needed. Nursing is a caring profession and two main aspects of the caring process, include the activities and attitudes. Attitude to cancer can affect the communication between patients and health workers. The aim of this study is to determine the relationship between nurses’ attitude to cancer and patients’ perceptions regarding caring behaviors in oncology settings.

Method: This was a descriptive-correlational study in which 100 nurse and 200 patients were involved between 2012-2013. Data collection tools were the Caring Behaviors Inventory (CBI) and Attitude to Cancer (ACS). Descriptive statistics and independent T- Test, ANOVA and correlation test were utilized for data analyzing using SPSS V.16.

Results: According to the findings order of scoring subscale was: Professional knowledge and skill, Attentiveness to other's experience, Respectful deference to other, Positive connectedness. There was no significant relationship between nurses’ attitude and their caring behaviors (P = 0/397).

Conclusion: It seems that nurses’ knowledge and skills is a dominant caring behavior that suppresses other aspects such as emotional and relational aspects. There are some other factors influencing caring behaviours of nurses such as religious beliefs that should be considered rather than their attitude to cancer.

Key words: caring behavior, attitude, cancer, patient, nurse