



Tehran University of Medical Sciences

International Campus

School of Nursing and Midwifery

Title:

**THE IMPACT OF A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PLAN ABOUT EYE CARE
IN UNCONSCIOUS PATIENTS ON KNOWLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE OF
INTENSIVE CARE NURSES IN GHANA**

**Thesis submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirement for the Award of Master of Science (MSc) Degree.**

Critical care Nursing

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Abstract

Background: Eye care in unconscious patients is a fundamental component of a nurses' clinical practice in intensive care units (ICU). Some literature points to a lack of knowledge among nurses regarding to this important aspect of intensive care. Also, it seems the performance of nurse is not desirable in this field and eye care is a kind of missed care in ICUs. Therefore, it is imperative to devote a great deal of work for training ICU nurses in this issue to be more knowledgeable and more skilled in eye care. This study aimed to assess the effects of a comprehensive training plan about eye care in unconscious on knowledge and performance of intensive care nurses in Ghana.

Methods: This is a quasi-experimental study that was done in two groups. Eighty ICU nurses from two university affiliated teaching hospital participated in the study through census sampling. The tools includes a knowledge questionnaire and an observational checklist for performance. The content validity of all tools approved by experts. As well, the reliability of the questionnaire and the checklist assessed and confirmed through internal consistency ($\alpha=0.87$) and concurrent observation of raters ($r=0.81$), respectively. The intervention in the experimental group included training the nurses about principles of eye care in unconscious patients that was conducted through some interactive workshops, practical teaching, showing movies, designing posters, and preparing pamphlets and flyers. In the control group, no education happened and every care was based on the routine. Knowledge and performance of the nurses before and after the intervention were measured in both groups. The data were analyzed using SPSS (ver. 16), by descriptive and inferential statistics in a $P<0.05$.

Results: The results showed knowledge and performance of the nurses were not desirable in pre-test phase in both groups. However, after the intervention mean score of the knowledge and performance of the nurses increased notably in the experiment

group ($p < .001$). Comparison of two groups after the intervention with reference to the knowledge and the performance was statistically significant ($p < .001$).

Conclusion: The study provided rich data regarding nurses' knowledge and performance about eye care among ICU nurses in Ghana. Also, the findings revealed that the comprehensive training plan could enhance knowledge of the nurses about eye care in unconscious patients. In addition, it is effective to improve performance of the nurses to give high quality eye care. With regard to the results, more attention must pay about eye care in unconscious patients and it is recommended all Ghanaian ICU nurses should participate in this comprehensive training course.

Key words: Eye Care, Unconscious Patient, Intensive Care, Education, Ghana