IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF PRE-OPERATIVE NURSING CARE IN THE OPERATING ROOM THROUGH PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH AT THE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, CHON BURI

Busakorn Phongchawalit

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By:	Busakorn Phongchawalit
Program:	Master of Public Health (Health Systems Development) College of Public Health
Thesis Advisor	Ratana Somrongthong, M.A.
Accept	ed by the College of Public Health, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok rtial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree
	Samlee Climburghang Dean of the College of Public Health (Samlee Plianbangchang, M.D., Dr.P.H.)
THESIS COM	MITTEE
	M 7 Chairperson
	(Wacharin Tanyanont, M.S.)
	Rh., Siz. Thesis Advisor
	(Ratana Somrongthong, M.A.)
	Rugo chai Member
	(Associate Professor Puangtip Chaiphibalsarisdi, Ph.D.)

Abstract

This proposal of participatory action research of quality improvement in preoperative nursing care was conducted in a community hospital in Chon-Buri province.

The aim of the study were to 1) investigate the situation in the pre-operative nursing
service within the operation room, Phanat Nikhom hospital; 2) decrease duplication of
preoperative nursing care among preoperative and anesthetic nurses; 3) decrease
incidence of postponing or cancellations of operation; and 4) increase patient
satisfaction forward preoperative nursing care.

Six perioperative nurses / and four anesthetic nurses participated in the study. The study was divided into two phases. The first phase included situation analysis of preoperative nursing services, formulation of nursing management direction and guideline composed of vision, mission, value, purpose statement, scope of care, process of service, and investigation of opportunity & problem for improvement in preoperative nursing care. The second phase was the participatory action research. This phase composed of identification of problem, causes and the consequences of poor preoperative nursing care quality; planning for focus group discussion and "try out". Data collection was conducted through brainstorming, focus group discussion and secondary data. Data were then examined using methodological triangulation and analysed by grouping, interpreting and summarization of data.

The results indicated that the participatory action search enable the nursing team to identify problems and their causes; then together planning to solve the problems, putting the plans into practice, reflecting and feedback on the practice and monitoring the plans. This led to a quality nursing care received by patients. Thus, it can be applied for quality improvement in operative nursing and in postoperative nursing to ensure continuity of nursing care as well as in other areas of nursing care.

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