EFFECTS OF SPIRITUAL CARE ON THE COPING MECHANISM OF PATIENTS IN THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

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ABSTRACT

Background of the study

Despite the increasing evidence of the benefits of spiritual care, the provision of spiritual care by nurses is seldom provided. Several studies indicated that spiritual and psychosocial interventions reduce cardiac morbidity and improve long-term prognosis of patients with coronary heart disease.

Objective

This study aimed to determine the effect of spiritual care to the coping mechanisms of adult patients in the ICU.

Methods

The study utilized Quasi-experimental, pretest-post-test design. Out of 66 patients screened based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria, 40 patients qualified for the study. However, only 20 subjects who underwent the Spiritual Care intervention were able to complete the program. Coping was measured using the *Jaloweic Coping Scale*, while the *Spiritual Perspectives Scale* was used to measure the person's perspectives on the extent to which spirituality permeates their lives, and the way they engage in spiritually-related interactions.

Results

Strong evidence regarding the connection of spiritual care and coping mechanism is seen in this research study. There is a positive relationship between spiritual care and its effect on the coping mechanism of the ICU patient. A higher level of spiritual involvement then is associated with the practice of positive related coping behaviors which can lead ultimately to the well-being of the patient.

Keywords: Spritual care, coping mechanism, intensive care unit