

The Effects of Play Therapy in Relation to the Cooperation of Pre-School Patients to Nursing Care at the Pediatric Ward of Philippine Heart Center (1997)

Hera Remedios S. Gentic, Jossan M. Uy, Giezel M. Rosero, Rowena V. Rivera,
Carmelita A. Naral, Maria Linda G. Buhat, RN, Ed.D.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND:

To reduce the stressful effects of hospitalization for children, it is important to bring into the hospital ward, as many as possible, the elements which are familiar in the child's world... one of which is play.

METHODS:

Using the Quasi-Experimental Research Design, this study determined the effects of symbolic play therapy in gaining the cooperation of pre-school patients to nursing care, confined at the Children's Ward and the Pediatric Main-Ward of the Philippine Heart Center. It utilized the non-probability convenience sampling wherein the subjects varied in terms of age, sex, patient's category, ordinal position in the family, frequency of hospitalization and presence of significant others.

RESULTS/CONCLUSION:

Results showed that there is a significant difference in the degree of cooperation of pre-school patients to nursing care before and after the implementation of play therapy.

The children became highly cooperative to all nursing care activities rendered after the play therapy. However, female and younger siblings showed more cooperation. Eldest children and pre-school patients who are hospitalized for the first time were less cooperative. Presence of significant others during the implementation of play therapy is independent from the degree of the child's response. There is no significant difference in the cooperation of pre-school patients to nursing care according to patient's category (whether pay or service).