



Literature reviews

The patient's experience of temporary paralysis from spinal anaesthesia, a part of total knee replacement

Bager, L., Konradsen, H. and Dreyer, S. (2015) *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 24: 3503–3510

Background

The authors highlight that the fast track approach to total knee arthroplasty has reduced inpatient stay from 4–12 days to 2–4 days. In addition it is noted that 80% of total knee arthroplasties are undertaken using regional anaesthesia and the benefits of such are discussed. It is, however, highlighted that much of the literature examines the experience during the intra-operative situation and in the post-anaesthetic care unit. The authors feel that the experience may extend far beyond these care settings and, therefore, note that this needs to be examined further.

Aim

This study aims to examine how patients who had undergone regional anaesthesia for total knee replacements experienced temporary paralysis in its entirety.

Design

The design is essentially phenomenological and hermeneutical in approach.

Sample

A purposive sample of 12 participants was selected. This was made up of 2 females and 10 males.

Data collection

Data collection was undertaken using semi-structured interviews lasting between 14 and 20 minutes. The interviews were undertaken on the ward.

Data analysis

Data analysis involved the processes of textual interpretation involving distanciation. This is very well explained by the authors. From the analysis three distinct themes emerged relating to:

- Being aware of the necessity for anaesthesia
- The body becoming unrecognisable and incomprehensible
- The joy and agony of the returning body.

Conclusion

There are some very important issues highlighted here and practitioners should use this information to enhance care delivery and ensure that care is individually focused.

Effects of an in-hospital nursing intervention on changing illness perceptions in brain injury

Lee, B., Chien, C., Hung, C and Chou, P. (2015) *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 71: 2540–2550

Background

There is consideration of the physical and psychosocial impact of injury and the measures that have been used to study these over time. There is also an examination of theories relating to illness perception and how this may impact illness or health threat and the potential impact this may have on outcomes.

Aim

This study was developed to examine the effectiveness of a nursing intervention developed to change the illness perceptions of injured patients.

Design

The researchers used an experimental design. One group of participants received an in-hospital intervention based on illness representation theory whilst the control group received routine care only.

Sample

Forty two participants were recruited into each group over a period of 20 months. Inclusion and exclusion criteria were stated.

Data collection

Data collection included the Chinese Illness Perception Questionnaire and the Chinese IPQ-R-Trauma as well as demographic and clinical data. The Chinese IPQ-R-Trauma looks at symptoms and causes and has six other notable subscales, these being:

- Emotional representations
- Timeline acute/chronic: relating to duration of effects of injury
- Timeline cyclical: which relates to episodic nature of effects of injury
- Consequences of injury
- Controllability: which relates to how patient recovers
- Illness coherence: which relates to comprehension of the injury.

This was administered at baseline and 3 month follow up.

Data analysis

Data analysis took place using SPSS 15.0 and included:

- Independent sample t-tests, chi-square tests and Fisher's exact tests for defined variables relating to demographic and clinical data
- Differences in pre and post test scores were compared by independent sample t-tests
- The intervention effects were tested using the generalised estimating equation.

Results

Overall, the study identified that, as a result of the intervention, there appeared to be a reduction in injury related physical symptoms and an increase in positive perceptions relating to control of the post injury condition.

Conclusion

The authors feel that there is a need to conduct further research to enhance the effectiveness of the intervention protocol.

The patient's perception of a delirium: A qualitative research in a Belgian intensive care unit

Rompaey, B.V., Hoof, A.V., Bogaert, P.V., Timmermans, O. and Dilles, T. (2016) *Intensive and Critical Care Nursing* 32:66–74

Background

The authors give an overview of the causes of delirium and its incidence in the intensive care unit. They highlight that whilst a number of factors leading to this occurring have been studied, no one single factor is recognised as the main cause. There is also some discussion of morbidity and mortality associated with this. The authors note that the patient's experience in published research seems to be under-revealed.

Aim

This study aims to develop an in-depth understanding of the patient's perception of delirium in the intensive care setting.

Design

The design is described as qualitative and hermeneutic.

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