



Literature Reviews

Comparison of infant vitamin D supplement use among Canadian-born, immigrant and refugee mothers

Moffat, T., Sellen, D., Wilson, W., Anderson, L., Chadwick, S. and Amarra, S. (2015) *Journal of Transcultural Nursing* 26 (3): 261–269

Background

The importance of knowledge of vitamin D supplementation amongst the general population is acknowledged, particularly with regard to vulnerable groups. This is considered with reference to the association between vitamin D deficiency and chronic disease. Issues around breast feeding and challenges faced by immigrant populations are also well considered. The study does define and distinguish between immigrant and refugee groups for the purpose of this study.

Aim

Pilot study to narrow gaps in understanding of vitamin D deficiency among vulnerable populations in Canada.

Design

Appears to be qualitative and descriptive.

Sample

Ninety-four mothers with children of 0–3 years were recruited from early childhood centres and a refugee clinic. Inclusion criteria were set and each group was roughly made up one third of the sample.

Data collection

This took place in focus groups which were made up, on average, of 10 participants. Each participant also completed a short socio-demographic questionnaire.

Data analysis

Discussions were digitally recorded and transcribed verbatim before being subjected to content analysis.

Findings

Supplementation of vitamin D was reported mainly by Canadian-born participants and immigrants. Refugees were more likely to say that they did not know anything about vitamin D. However, there appeared to be a general issue around specifics of consumption and synthesis in all groups. Guidance on vitamin D supplementation appeared to be inconsistent.

Conclusion

Health care professionals need to provide detailed information about sources and synthesis of vitamin D as well as consistent messages on supplementation. This needs to be focussed on the needs and understanding of different cultural groups.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijotn.2016.08.002>

Quantity and quality of interaction between staff and older patients in UK hospital wards: a descriptive study

Barker, H., Griffiths, P., Fhea, F., Mesa-Eguiagaray, I., Pickering, R., Gould, L. and Bridges, J. (2016) *International Journal of Nursing Studies* 62: 100–107

Background

The review gives good insight into studies relating to the quality and quantity of interaction amongst nurses and elderly patients in acute hospital settings. There is also insight into how interaction can shape patients' experiences during the stay. However, it is noted that most studies are quantitative and do not indicate how common problems are. The main issue seems to be previous studies are questionnaire-based, retrospective evaluative studies.

Aims

- To identify frequency and length of interaction between staff and older patients
- To characterise the quality of interaction
- To identify association between negative interactions and patient/staff/interaction/observation characteristics

Design

Observational study.

Sample

Observations were made on six wards in two acute hospitals. Some categories of patient were excluded from the study.

Data collection

Data were collected using:

- The Quality of Interaction Schedule
- Contextual data for each session

Observers were discreet and non-participant.

Data analysis

Descriptive statistics were utilised along with a four-level mixed-effects logistical regression analysis to determine factors associated with negative interactions.

Findings

Out of 1554 interactions observed, 73% were categorised as positive, with 17% coded as neutral and 10% negative. In all, 47% of patients appeared to have a negative interaction. The negative interactions did not appear to be associated with staff characteristics, skill mix, staffing levels or the gender, age or cognitive impairment of the patient. It is noted that, on a reduced model, patient agitation at the outset may increase the odds of a negative interaction.

Conclusion

The authors note the high number of positive interactions but also identify room for improvement. They suggest further research be undertaken around workload and ward culture.

Caregiving activities closely associated with the development of low-back pain among female family care-givers

Suzuki, K., Tamakoshi, K. and Sakakibara, H. (2016) *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 25: 2156–2167

Background

It is noted that low-back pain is frequently work-related and that its specific cause is frequently difficult to determine. However, the authors identify that there is little in the literature that examines the association between low-back pain and the daily lives and care-giving activities of female care-givers.

Aims

- To identify the effect of low-back pain on the lives of female care-givers
- To identify which health-related behaviours and caregiving factors affect low-back pain in these women

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