

Abstract

General nurses in their profession provide nursing care to patients of different age groups. Quite frequently represented group are seniors. This fact is due to the increase in life expectancy, medical advances and polymorbidity of seniors, which is often the cause of their hospitalization. Nursing care for seniors is particularly challenging due to the occurrence of many geriatric symptoms, restriction of cognitive functions and inability to self care.

Much more difficult situation occurs, if the state of geriatric patient requires care in ARO (Department of Anesthesiology and Resuscitation) or ICU (Intensive Care Unit). Identification of problem areas in intensive nursing care for seniors leads to infer the possible measures for practice.

In terms of this thesis quantitative research was carried out using a questionnaire survey. Research group consisted of general nurses from departments of intensive care, thus professional intensive care units (ICU) and department of anesthesiology and resuscitation. Out of the total number of 120 distributed questionnaires (100 %) returned 94 usable questionnaires (78,33 %). Realization of research survey was conducted in February 2012. The thesis consists of two parts, the practical and theoretical. The main objective was to map the problem of providing nursing care to seniors in the department of anesthesiology and resuscitation and ICU. The objective was achieved.

In case of interest of the General Teaching Hospital in Prague will be the results of research provided and can thus be used to improve and specify intensive nursing care for geriatric patients.

Key words: nursing care, intensive care, senior, physical load, mental load, general nurse, geriatric syndrome, nursing problem