ABSTRACT

This thesis deals with diseased peripheral blood vessels, namely thrombosis of veins affecting limbs and the pelvic area and acute arterial blockages in extremities. In addition to data concerning these illnesses, the thesis also presents the treatment of these patients and treatment of those patients who are given anti-coagulants either preventatively or as part of treatment. The empirical portion includes quantitative research through an anonymous survey instrument. The respondents were nurses who worked in internal, surgery, or general units of intensive care in university and regional hospitals. The goal of the research was to determine whether nurses are aware of the general areas of non-coronary blood-vessel issues and of the idiosyncrasies of treatment of patients with warfarin and heparin, and whether the nurses were aware of the idiosyncrasies of treatment of patients with non-coronary arterial blockages. We discovered that nurses were most aware of the idiosyncrasies of treatment of patients with warfarin and heparin. On the other hand, the nurses had almost no awareness of the idiosyncrasies of treatment of patients with non-coronary arterial blockages. Exactly half of the respondents were aware of the general areas of non-coronary blood-vessel issues. The conclusion of the thesis provides two proposals for a standard of treatment. One is designed for treatment of patients with acute arterial blockage, and the second is for the treatment of patients with deep vein thrombosis. The standards feature complete charts that indicate the importance of caring for the affected extremity.

KEYWORDS

Angiology, nurse in intensive care, vascular disease, specifics in nursing care