

ABSTRACT

The process of acquiring informed consents from patients belongs to one of the everyday activities of hospital personnel. The duty of submitting informed consent forms to patients is mostly in competence of the doctors. Nurses, however, are present during the entirety of patients' medical care and should be acquainted with all aspects of the informed consent. The process of acquiring the informed consents from patients admitted to intensive care unit (hereinafter ICU) is connected with a multitude of difficulties.

The method of statistical analysis of data acquired by the questionnaire construction method was used for this quantitative research. 99 respondents participated in the questionnaire construction. The research took place within one hospital at chosen ICUs. The main goal of this thesis is to evaluate the process of acquiring informed consents from patients from the point of view of nurses and to identify the main issues connected with signing of informed consents.

The results of the research show that patients are adequately informed by their physicians before signing the informed consents. Poor medical condition of patients admitted to ICUs may be seen as one of the main issues during the signing of informed consents. The research further shows that 50% of patients don't read the text of informed consent and ask nurses, rather than doctors, additional questions. In nurses' opinion, the place where the information is conveyed also impacts the patients.

The results of this research may contribute to improvement in health care and will be presented to the management of the hospital to be implemented into practice. A seminar for nurses covering the topics of informed consents and the contemporary legislation will be held after a consultation with the head nurse of each department.

Key words:

Informed Consent

Patient

Nurses' Point of View

Patient Admission

Legislation