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Palliative Care in Intensive Care Units: Perceptions of Health Care Providers

Background:

Despite the significant impact of Palliative care services on relieving patients' suffering and improve their quality of the quality, barriers for facilitating palliative care in intensive care units (ICU) exist.

Objective:

The Purpose of this study was to explore barriers to implementing PC in ICUs as perceived by health care providers

Method:

A 17 semi-structured interviews using qualitative approach with health care providers in ICU were conducted.

Conclusion:

Five main themes emerged: "intensive care unit is a demanding and complex environment of care," "lack of preparation to implement palliative care," "palliative care is a nicety, not a necessity," "health care system-related barriers," and "lack of cultural acceptance of palliative care".

Conclusion:

Developing an interdisciplinary care team will support the effective implementation of PC services in any setting. Establishing policies will foster the ethical and legal practice of palliative care.

Keywords: Palliative care, intensive care units, barriers, perception, health care provide

Biography:

Dr. Wejdan Khater, received her PhD degree in Nursing from Kansas University Medical Center, USA, in 2006. Dr. Khater, is currently a vice dean and Associate Professor in the Department of Adult Health Nursing at Jordan University of Science and Technology. She contributed as a consultant for a variety of national and international projects, with a number of educational and clinical institutions.

Dr. Khater, research focus is palliative care nursing care and symptoms management. Being active in policy development to integrating palliative care into nursing care and nursing curriculum, she has gained opportunities to be a member at the member at the national palliative care committee (2013-present).

Dr. khater, is an accomplished educator and researcher, evidenced by her work as a reviewer for several journal and a member of advisory board at Jordan Journal of Nursing Research, as well as her many publications. She continues to persevere in both her educational and professional ventures.