

Review Article

Nursing Studies about Central Venous Catheter Care: A Literature Review and Recommendations for Clinical Practice

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Abstract

Introduction: Evidence-based studies performed by nurses on central venous catheter care are limited in number.

Aim: The aim of this study was to systematically evaluate the literature data about nurses' responsibilities on each step of the care of central venous catheter and determining the gaps in the relevant data or issues to be re-evaluated, which could be helpful in future studies.

Methodology: A literature review was assessed. Different themes were extracted and recommended for clinical practice. A search strategy was carried out for the period 2007–2012 utilising three computerised databases: MEDLINE, PubMed and SCIENCE DIRECT.

Results: Nine studies met the inclusion criteria for review. Three prominent themes were identified in the literature related to: (1) Measures to Prevent Infection (2) Infection Control of central venous catheter, Results, and Other Findings (3) Applications to Sustain Catheter Flow.

Conclusions: According to the results of this study, nursing studies on the some subjects are either absent or inadequate In view of these facts, nurses are required to carry out high-quality evidence-based Randomised Controlled Trials.

Keywords: central venous catheter; central venous catheter-associated infections; evidence-based practice; nursing.