

ORIGINAL PAPER

Determination of Professional Behaviours of Nurses Working in an Educational and Research Hospital

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Abstract

Background: The word "professional" generally means a person who has training, experience and specialized knowledge maintenance in the field which one is practicing. Thus nurses' professional behavior, patient care quality and maintaining safety during their practice becomes very important.

Aim: This study provides a comprehensive assessment of nurses' professional behaviour.

Design and Method: A cross-sectional and descriptive study was carried out to determine the professional behavior of the nurses working in an education and research hospital in Ankara (Turkey) between September-November 2010. The Behavioral Inventory for Professionalism in Nursing (BIPN) and descriptive characteristics questionnaire were used to collect data. The research sample comprises nurses (n = 115) working at the selected institution who agreed to participate in this study.

Results: Nurses (n = 115) received high scores in the fields of Competence and Continuing Education, use of Theory, Education, Research, Social Services and Nursing Code, but low scores in the fields of professional organization, publishing and autonomy.

Conclusion: Nurses in the study received low scores for their professional behaviour. Increase in the level of education was found to be the most important feature affecting the level of professionalism in nursing.

Key words: Nurse, Professional Behaviour, Education, Care.