Abstract

Background: Over the past decade, the UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital, a teaching hospital located in Gainesville, FL, has strived to not only practice Patient- and Family-Centered Care (PFCC), but also apply those same core principles during rounds by performing Patient- and Family- Centered Rounding (PFCR) since 2007. In a continuous effort to improve upon PFCR, increasing nurse attendance and participation during rounds has been identified as a goal for the hospital. Before any interventions can take place, the need for preliminary data on self-perceived roles of the nurses during rounds and barriers to attending and participating in rounds should be gathered. The importance of the role of the nurse during rounds is currently underrepresented in research, thus the need for an exploratory pilot study to address the gap in the literature.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to gain an understanding of pediatric nurses’ perspectives of their roles during PFCR. This study will help identify the nurses’ self-perceived role during PFCR, specific barriers that impede on nursing attendance and participation during rounds, and suggestions to eliminate or reduce those barriers.

Methods: The pediatric registered nurses (n=21) who work the dayshift in Children’s Services Units 44 and 45 were asked to fill out a novel, mixed method 14-item survey.

Results: Nurses understand the importance of their role and identify with the need to participate and attend in PFCR. The most prominent barrier noted by the nurses includes time and convenience related limitations to attending rounds. By reducing the identified barriers, it is probable that satisfaction and rounding attendance will increase.

Conclusions: Results from this study can help provide a basis for understanding nurses’ perceptions on PFCR and be used to change attitudes, perceptions, and behaviors of nurses in future interventions.
Competencies Strengthened

MPH competencies strengthened by the project:
- Informing, education, and empowering people about health issues
- Developing policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts

Concentration competencies strengthened by the project:
- Critically describe and evaluate the state of public health social and behavioral science research and literature
- Apply social and behavioral science theories and concepts to public health problems
- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct social and behavioral science research

Public Health Relevance

The effective practice of Patient- and Family- Centered Rounds is an approach that leads to better health outcomes, can help improve allocation of resources, and can improve cohesiveness between families, patients, and the medical team. The purpose of my project specifically aimed to help improve nurse attendance and participation during PFCR, which in turn can improve patient and staff satisfaction. Research has linked satisfaction to patient compliance and staff burnout rates.