FAMILY NURSING APPROACHES IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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Introduction Workers and work environment are changing as a result of demographic, economic, social and technological changes. Considering that the healthcare issue among workers are currently extending further beyond individuals and their families, it is necessary to examine the practice with family nursing approaches for workers in occupational health settings.

The purpose of this literature review was to explore the practice with family nursing approaches in occupational health nursing.

Methods Relevant articles from PubMed and the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature were identified using the key words ‘family,’ and ‘occupational health nursing,’ published from 2000 to 2016. 77 articles were reviewed. 6 met inclusion criteria and were included for final review.

Results Six research articles have been published from 2005 to 2013. Three papers were focused on mental health issues of workers while others focused on working mothers physical activities, immigrant workers, and personal safety.

Discussion Several family related practice in occupational health nursing have been identified, while it revealed that findings were limited due to a lack of studies. The review highlighted the need to specifically study the healthcare issues of workers related family.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ORGANISATIONAL RESOURCES AND OCCUPATIONAL STRESS AMONG JAPANESE NURSES

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Introduction Several studies have shown that occupational stress is low in workplaces where organisational resources are high. On the other hand, there are few studies that have specialised in investigating similar matters in health care workers. This study was conducted to examine whether the relationship between organisational resources and occupational stress can also be observed in Japanese nurses.

Methods The subjects were 851 nurses and midwives who were enrolled in two general hospitals as of 2015. The investigation period was July 2015 to August 2015. There were 727 respondents. Missing items were invalided and excluded from the analysis. The independent variables were defined as WIN, age (20–50 years old), gender, and workplace (university hospital and branch hospital) and the dependent variables were the four subscales of the JCQ (job demands, job control, social support from the supervisor, and social support from coworkers). Multivariate analysis of variance was performed. WIN was used as a measure of organisational resources, which were classified into the three groups of (1) low score (−1.0 SD or less), (2) medium score (−1.0 SD to +1.0 SD), and (3) high score (+1.0 SD or more).

Results There was a significant association between all groups of WIN and job requirement, job control, supervisor’s support, and colleague’s support (F(2, 569) = 19.36, p < 0.001, F(2, 562) = 9.85, p < 0.001, F(2, 568) = 135.90, p < 0.001, and F(2, 565) = 50.74, p < 0.001 respectively).

Discussion The nurses working in two general hospitals in Japan provided similar results to those in previous studies. However, this research was limited to only two hospitals, and the same may not be found for nurses in general. In future, it may be necessary to collaborate with other institutions to target more nurses in medical institutions.

FUTURE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING ROLES

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Introduction The role of the occupational health nurse (OHN) is often defined by the workplace setting and needs of the employer. Components of the OHN role include health promotion, prevention of injury and illness, and protection of workers from health and safety hazards while using an interdisciplinary approach. Future roles of the OHN will be presented within these contexts through a global perspective.

FUTURE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING ROLES

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Introduction The role of Occupational Health Nurses (OHNs) depends on many factors, including legislation, population, geography, history, culture, industrial profile of hazards and risks, and on how occupational health (and safety) relates to the national health system. In most countries, occupational health services emerged towards the end of the 19th Century following the Industrial Revolution, and the stage of development of occupational services varies, with corresponding variation in the OHN role. Notwithstanding this, the role is well defined in the context of other members of the multidisciplinary team. Major changes to the world of work at the end of the 20th Century, including changing demographics, new ways of working and the rise of chronic diseases including mental health issues, are impacting occupational health in the 21st Century, and, with an increasing pace of change, has implications for the future role of occupational health nursing.

Methods A review of relevant literature.

Results The functions of the OHN can be tracked over time, requiring a wide range of skills and encompass numerous roles. Interdisciplinary and inter-professional collaboration is important. Changes are emerging in many countries that re-orientate the focus to the health of the working age population, and is not confined to those exposed to work-related risk or even those at work. While there is a public health dimension, occupational health professionals see themselves as well placed, trained, and experienced to play a key role in this development.