

The Effects of Hospice Care in Public Health Centers on Care-giver Burden of Families with Terminal Cancer Patients

Young-Ran, Han · In-Hong, Kim

Department of Nursing, College of Medicine, Dongguk University, Korea

1. Purpose

The object of hospice was to help the patient, to take his last breath peacefully, in a dignified way, and his family members, to lead a more qualitative life. But, the family care-givers for terminal cancer patients were undergoing far more negative experience, as compared with those who do for other disease patients. Therefore, this study was to find out the effects of hospice care by evaluating the care-giver burden of families with terminal cancer patients

2. Methods

From January through December 2005, 41 terminal cancer patients were selected as subjects for this study based on the research criteria. The data were collected using the questionnaire along with interviews. The tools that were used for the research were 24-item questionnaire. The questionnaire was to measure care-giver burden of families by means of the measure instrument of Seo. et al.(1993). The data was analyzed using frequency, percentage and paired t-test.

3. Results

There was a statistically significant differences in care-giver burden of families between before and after receiving the comprehensive hospice care($t=0.899$, $p=.000$).

4. Conclusion

Hospice care in the public health center could be considered as an effective intervention to decrease of care-giver burden of families with terminal cancer patients. It is recommended that hospice care in public health centers for the terminally ill out clients should be increased.