

Factors Contributing to Caregiver Burden in Caring of Patients with Dementia

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This was a cross-sectional study to explore the factors affecting the caregivers' burden of patients with dementia. We used to collect 100 dyads of patients with mild to moderate dementia and family caregivers recruited from a dementia clinic at a medical center in Taichung. Caregivers were interviewed at clinic using structured questionnaires, include: The Revised Memory and Behavior Problem Checklist(RMBPC), Chinese Caregiver Burden Inventory(CCBI), Functional Social Support Scale, and self-report health status, et al. The results showed the caregivers of patients with dementia were predominantly female (69%), the relative for the care recipients was daughter for the most (36%), the average age was 54 years, only 26% of caregivers reported their health status was "good", and 29% of caregivers felt "not good. The average score of caregiver burden(CCBI)was 15.56. The frequency of Behavior and Psychological Syndrome of Dementia (BPSD) of the care recipients was 56 times. There were significant differences in the caregivers' religion and their health status of the caregivers with burden ($p<.05$). The BPSD of care recipients and the social support of caregivers were both significant correlation with the caregivers' burden ($p<.01$). The correlation coefficients were.464 and-.594. Social support, health status of caregivers and the BPSD frequency of care recipients could explain 45.4% of the variance of caregiver burden ($p<.05$). To reducing patient's BPSD and taking care of family caregivers' health, the professional staffs of health care and social support system should play an important role. It was recommended that the hospital should integrate the care of outpatient service for dementia patients and their family caregivers, especially provide health and information support to caregivers in treatment of patients with dementia simultaneously, to achieve the goal of improving the quality of life of patients and caregivers.

Biography:

Yung Ming is a nurse who had been in nursing work for 30 years and specialized in Emergency, Intensive Care Nursing and Nursing Administration.