

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This descriptive study was conducted to describe the needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and nurse responses as perceived by the patients, and compare the needs of patient and such nurse responses. Forty subjects were included by purposive sampling from the population at the First Affiliated Hospital and Cancer Center of Sun Yat-sen University of Medical Sciences (SUMS) in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China. The data collection was done during November, 1998 to February, 1999. The instrument used for data collection in this study included Demographic Data Form and Needs of Hepatectomy Patient with Pain and Nurse Responses Questionnaire. Wilcoxon Matched-Pairs Signed Ranks Test was used to test the difference between the needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and the nurse responses as perceived by the patients.

The implications of the findings to nursing practice, nursing education, nursing research, and nursing administration, as well as the recommendations for further nursing researches were also presented in this chapter.

Conclusion of findings

Based on the findings of this study, the following conclusions were made:

1. Mean of needs of hepatectomy patient with pain was 2.53 (SD = 0.29)

2. Mean of nurse responses was 2.38 (SD = 0.38)

3. There was statistically significant difference between the overall needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and the overall nurse responses as tested by Wilcoxon Matched Pairs Signed Rank Test at $p = 0.001$.

4. There were statistically difference between needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and nurse responses in six statements as tested by Wilcoxon Matched Pairs Signed Rank Test at p ranged from 0.000 to 0.034: nurses inform that I can ask for pain medication at any time; nurses help me with activities of daily living during these two days; nurses place all necessary things nearby so I can reach them easily; nurses help me position myself until I am comfortable; nurses provide the information regarding imagination and encourage me to use it for relaxation; nurses give medicine for pain relief to me immediately after I ask for.

Implication of findings

Implications for nursing practice

The findings of this study will provide nurses a better understanding of needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and nurse responses as perceived by the patients. The priority of the needs of patient can be used as a guidance for nurses to make comprehensive nursing approach to provide care appropriately to meet patients' need.

Implication for nursing education

The outcomes of this study will help nursing educators to foster students' awareness of the needs of hepatectomy patient with pain. The results will also serve as a guideline for integration of pain management both pharmacological and nonpharmacological strategies to provide better care that satisfy the needs of the patients.

Implication for nursing research

The result from this study can be utilized as a baseline information for further study on needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and nurse responses. Nursing standard of pain control that fulfill the majority needs of the patients can be generated in the future.

Implication for nursing administration

The results of this study may provide useful information to nursing administrators to set up the program of inservice education regarding postoperative pain control

focusing on ways to fulfill of the needs of the patients. It can facilitate nurses to provide appropriate management of hepatectomy pain and eventually increase quality of nursing care.

Limitation of the study

This study used purposive sampling method rather than randomization. It was found in this study that more than half of the subjects (60.0%) finished high school level or higher. Majority of them were urban residents and nearly half of them (47.5%) worked as government service. Moreover, the family income of most of subjects (65.0%) were higher than the average of Chinese family income. Therefore, the generalization of the study could not be possible. Finally, the Needs of Hepatectomy Patient with Pain and Nurse Responses Questionnaire needed to be improved, as one statement "nurses provide the information regarding imagination and encourage me to use it for relaxation" was not applicable for Chinese population.

Recommendation

Based on the results of this study, several recommendations need to be considered for future study.

1. Replication of this study with random selected sample should be done to provide more confidence in

generalization of the study. In addition, influencing factors of needs of hepatectomy patient with pain and nurse responses such as gender, education level, family income, occupation may need to be explored further. It can provide more suggestions in nursing intervention according to individual and group differences.

2. The Needs of Hepatectomy Patient with Pain and Nurse Responses Questionnaire is a new instrument which developed by the researcher and first used in Chinese hepatectomy patients. It need to be improved so that it can cover all aspects of the needs of hepatectomy patient with pain. Moreover, it need to be used and tested in other group of patient who has operative pain.

3. A comparison study on needs of hepatectomy patient with pain in first two days and after these two days after operation is recommended to provide more information regarding pain pattern among these patients.