

Nurse & Midwife Time Spent on Providing care at Postnatal Ward, AWH, Qatar

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Abstract

Introduction: Nurses and midwives have the responsibility to implement evidence-based practices to improve the quality of care to the patients. In the delivery of care nursing planning, to implement best practices is fundamental and, time is essential to reach the goal in providing care without inequalities. In the postnatal services, the combination of mother and childcare, require different approach, knowledge and practice. This special characteristic can be a challenge on organizing services in a timely manner. It is necessary to building strategies that can evaluate and reflect on the actual practices to improve changes. However, few studies, researches and surveys are showing time as a tool to organize the services. This study has as main objective to measure the nurses and midwives time spent on patient care at postnatal ward at AWH. The specific objectives were to define the amount of time spent on carrying out N & M activities, average time spent on the care of different kind of deliveries, factors of risk (GDM, GDD, High Blood Pressure and Infections), wasted time and interruptions.

Methodology: The evaluation was conducted at postnatal ward. The staff was enrolled and selected by head nurse. Criteria of inclusion: midwives & nurses that participated on the Advance Postnatal Course. For this purpose, we created an instrument of data collection: "Nurse Activities time Management". This instrument includes patient information (mother and baby), start and finish time of patient care, interruptions and special notes.

Results: we found that: 1) midwives spent different time on the patient care after normal delivery and cesarean. Cesarean Increase 2 folders time spent on vital Sign, baby care, patient discharge and admission and reduce 1 fold time spent on education; 2) patients having some risk factors as: GDM, GDD and MRSA increase 3-4 minutes time spent on blood sugar check and antibiotic administrations; 3) some babies' procedures were doing separate at babies' room: This procedures increase 3-5' staff transportation of babies and waiting time, because the baby room is overcrowded during circumcision and Planning Family Education activities; 4) midwives are spending media of 3-4' to open the Cerner computers, and; 5) Average of 12' minutes of interruptions/wasted time in administrative activities, looking for papers, etc.

Final Considerations: This study helps us to understand midwives' time spent on the patient care, to enhance educational strategies to develop time management and midwives planning skills.

keywords: Time management, midwives practice

Abbreviations

AWH – Al Wakra Hospital

TM - Time Management

TOD - Type of Delivery

CS – Cesarean Section

Background

Nurses and midwives have the responsibility to implement evidencebased practices to improve the quality of patient's care. In the delivery of care nursing planning to implement best practices is fundamental and, time is essential to reach the goal in provide care without inequalities. In the postnatal services, the combination of care of mother and child require different approach, knowledge and

practice. This special characteristic can be a challenge on organize services in timely way. For it, is necessary to building strategies that can evaluate and reflect on the actual practice to improve changes. However, few studies, researcher and surveys are finding about time as a tool to organize the services.

Maximize the nurses and midwives' care imply strong improvement in safety and quality of care

Objective

This study has a main objective to measure the nurses and midwives time spent on patient care at postnatal ward at AWH.

Specific objectives were:

- To determine the amount of time spent on carrying out nursing and midwifery activities.

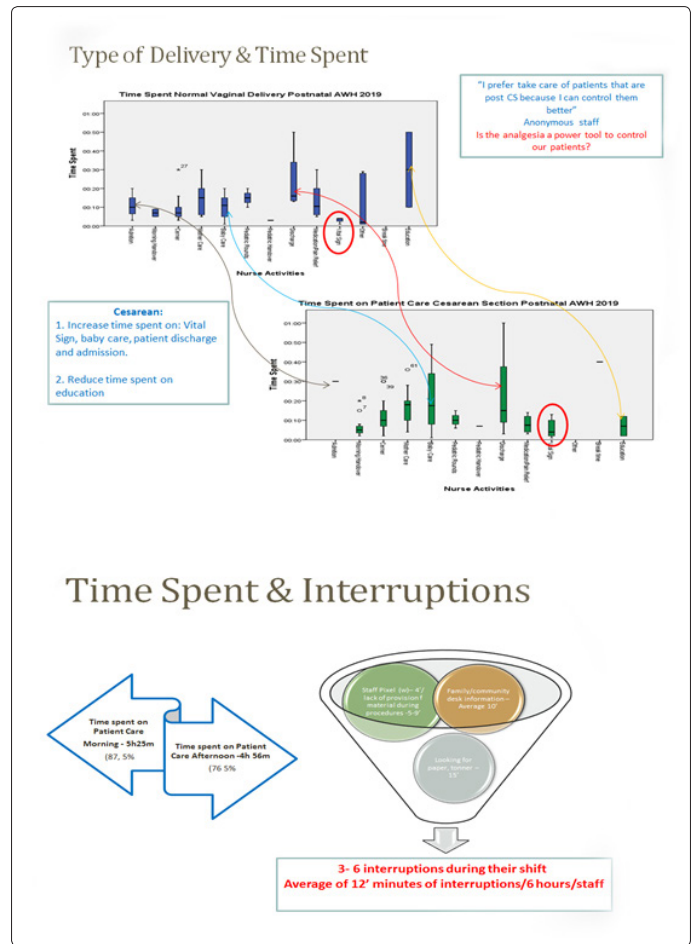
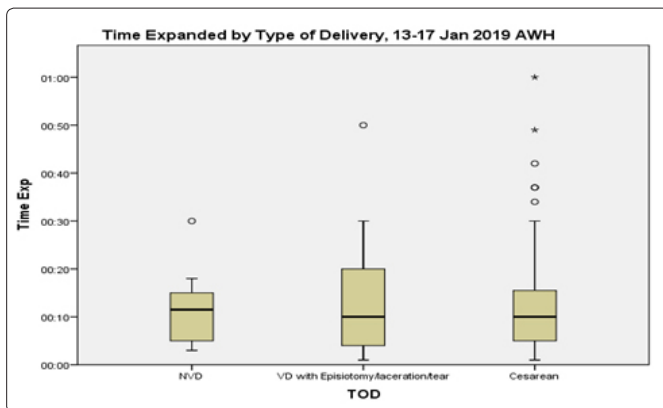
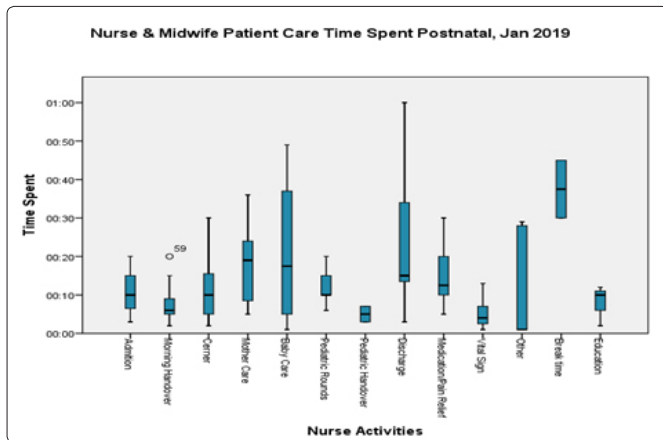
- To determine the average time spent on patients care and interruptions.
- To identify clinical (type of delivery, factors of risk) and organizational (Cerner, discharge process) factors that can interfere on the time spent in delivery care to the patients

Methods

The evaluation was conducted at postnatal ward. The staff was enrolled and selected by head nurse. Criteria of inclusion: midwives & nurses that participated on the Advance Postnatal Course. Nurses & midwives that fill the eligibility criteria were oriented about the project and asked for her permission. Participation was voluntary. To be eligible, nurses were required to be Registered Nurse or Midwives licensed and to provide direct nursing care for patients on the study unit. For the purpose of this study, we created an instrument of data collection: “Nurse Activities time Management”. This instrument includes patient information (mother and baby), start and finish time of patient care activity, interruptions and special notes (Annex 1).

The staff nurse and midwife were follow-up during the shift by the researcher. The activities are divided in: “Admission”; “Morning handover”; “Cerner Notes”; “Mother care”; “Baby Care”; Pediatric Rounds”; “Pediatric handover”; “Medication/pain relief”; “Vital Signs”; “Other”; “Break time” and “Patient Education”. The statistical analysis was providing by SPSS Version 19.0.

Results



We found that:

1. Midwives spent different time on the care of patients after normal delivery and cesarean. In case of Cesarean-section the time expanded increase 2 folders time spent on Vital Sign, Baby Care, Patient Discharge and Admission and, reduce 1 fold time spent on education;
2. patients that having some risk factors as: GDM, GDD and MRSA increase 3-4 minutes time spent on check of blood sugar and antibiotic administrations;
3. some procedures of babies were doing separate at babies' room: This procedures increase 3-5' staff transportation of babies and waiting time, because the baby room is overcrowded baby room during circumcision and Planning Family Education activities;
4. midwives are spending media of 3-4' to open the Cerner computers, and;
5. Average of 12' minutes of interruptions/waste time in administrative activities, looking for papers etc.

Limitations and Conclusion

The study shows some limitations during the assessment because as it was doing together with the nurse & midwives we believe that in some way we interfere in their normal routine. Another limitation is the fact that it is difficult to proper measure the duration of the patient care from start to finish, due to interruptions in the course of the procedure to attend other issues or patients.

The positive side of the study was the aggrupation of these activities what help us to understand the real movement of staff during the

shift and identify potential changes.

Finally, we consider that this study helps us to understand nurses & midwives time spent on the care of our patients to enhance educational strategies to develop time management and planning skills. Also, helps to prepare a plan of Cerner optimization and architectonic suggestions to avoid agglomeration at circumcision's time and other activities.

Conflict of interest

We do not have an affiliation (financial or otherwise) with a pharmaceutical, medical device, or communications and event planning company. Speakers who have no involvement with a commercial company should inform the audience that they cannot identify any conflict of interest.

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