An Experience in Applying Watson's Theory in Caring for an Enterovirus-Infected Child and His Primary Caregiver

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ABSTRACT: Enterovirus is commonly seen in children. Its morbidity and mortality rate is about 18% (Department of Health, the Executive Yuan, 2003). This paper documents the use of Watson's theory in the care of a child aged two years and seven months and his primary caregiver. During the nursing process, the application of care and concern for the child and primary caregiver provided confidence, comfort, and relief of fear and anxiety caused by hospitalization, enabling the patient, during his time in hospital, to make physical and psychological progress. The caregiver was also able to gain an understanding of how to care for a child with enterovirus, which diminished some of the pressure caused by his admission to hospital and placed him and his family at the center of the nursing care.

Key Words: Watson's theory, enterovirus, toddler, primary caregiver.

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