

The Perspectives of Family Caregivers concerning a Skilled Mixed Care Model in a Hospital: A Qualitative Study

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Abstract

Background: In 2006, the Department of Health conducted a Skilled Mixed Care Model project and actively promoted the idea of “pay for service”. In this model, a registered nurse helps train a nurse’s aid to provide basic daily living care for patients who pay for this service. This skilled mixed care model can relieve nursing shortage problems and reduce the care burden of families. Research related to the evaluation of this care model is very limited in Taiwan, and little is known about family perspectives. **Purposes:** This study aimed to explore the perspectives of families of inpatients concerning the service of the Skilled Mixed Care Model. **Methods:** A qualitative research design was used. A purposive sample of subjects from a regional hospital *in eastern Taiwan was recruited. [Dear Author: *Is this what you mean?] The families of eight patients were recruited and underwent in-depth interviews. The interviews were tape-recorded and transcribed. The interview data were analyzed using thematic analysis. **Results:** Four themes emerged from families’ perspectives as follows: 1. Unfearful to the hardship for the sake of the patients. [Dear Author: The previous sentence is completely unclear and I could not guess your meaning. Please rewrite.] 2. The warmth of the nursing staff could be felt with the skilled mixed care model. 3. A holistic care plan can contribute to the well-being of patients and 4. The model can reduce the costs of health care. **Conclusions:** The model is a feasible and useful service to reduce the care burden for families of inpatients. The findings of this study can provide a reference for hospital administrators who want to implement the model to provide a comprehensive care service for patients.

Key words: Skilled-Mixed-Care Model, family’s perspectives, nursing, qualitative research.

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