

Clinical Competencies for Nurses in Peri Anesthesia as Considered by Expert Leaders

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Abstract:

Objective: This study qualitatively describes the opinions of expert leaders about nurses' involvement in perianesthesia and constructs a clinical competency model for preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative nursing. The results provide suggestions for topics to be covered by educational programs on perianesthesia nursing.

Methods: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 11 nurse supervisors involved in perianesthesia from university hospitals and acute care hospitals nationwide. Subsequently, a longitudinal comparative analysis was performed.

Results: Four categories of preoperative competencies were constructed regarding collecting and assessing preoperative patient information: "ability to perform preoperative patient information gathering assessments," "explaining surgery to patients," "planning and preparing for surgical nursing care," and "ability to share patient information with the team and multiple disciplines." Eight categories of intraoperative competencies were defined: "preparation for surgery and mental support of the patient," "safe positioning of the patient," "safe anesthesia management," "communication with multiple professions," "judgment of the situation," "managing intraoperative nursing and emergency staff," "ability to mentor and train junior staff," and "ethical leadership." The postoperative category comprised five categories: "ability to make clinical judgment regarding anesthesia awakening," "consulting with other staff," "conveying information to ward nurses," "visiting patients postoperatively and evaluating intraoperative nursing care," and "managing the organization during adverse events."

Conclusion: The results suggest that perianesthesia nurses must be educated in the following areas: preoperative patient education, clinical judgment during and after surgery, strengthening of multidisciplinary collaboration, intraoperative ethical sensitivity, and the ability to share and solve ethical problems that are difficult to solve individually with a team.

keywords:

expert leaders, clinical competency, perianesthesia, nurses