Errors in Nursing
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Abstract

Practice errors by nurses can cause harm to patients, families, practitioners, systems, and the profession. Today’s attention is paid to the issue of errors in nursing practice. Staff is reluctant to discuss or publicize them. However, as clinical audit and quality management become more important and established in the health service, there is now a greater need to investigate and monitor the incidence of errors. The purpose of this study was to review the causes and consequences of errors. The most common causes of errors were lack of knowledge or information, work overload, stressful atmosphere and lack of support from senior staff. Nurses were found to have recourse to a number of coping strategies in the aftermath of the error. Accepting responsibility and planful problem-solving lead to positive changes in practice. The study suggests the need for staff to be encouraged to accept responsibility for their error within the framework of support. Strategies should be developed so that errors can be managed in a more constructive manner.

Keywords: Error- Nursing- strategies