

Concerns and Experiences of the Nurses Caring for the Patients Diagnosed with Covid-19 During the First Wave of Covid-19

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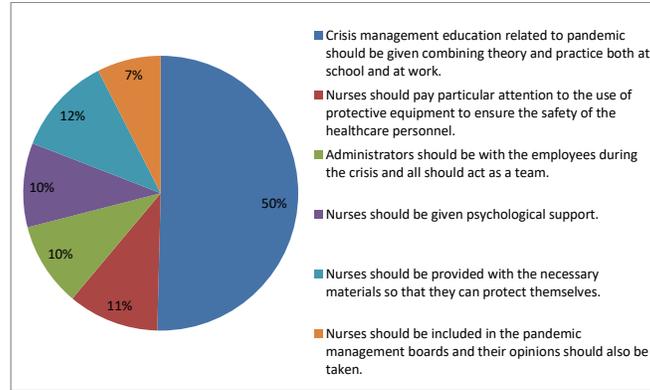
Abstract

Background: Health professionals who have direct contact with patients, provide primary care, and have the longest contact time are nurses. The pandemic caused by Covid-19, a virus with high mortality, high spreading rate, and no precise treatment, causes anxiety and fear in nurses. This study aimed to evaluate the anxiety and experience of the nurses who care for patients diagnosed with Covid-19. Material and Methods: This study was carried out based on cross-sectional research principles. The study was conducted between April 1 and May 30, 2020, with 327 nurses providing care to the hospitalized patients diagnosed with Covid-19. Results: The nurses stated that 70.6% of them had increased anxiety, and 51.1% of the nurses indicated that they were concerned about transmitting this disease to themselves while giving care to the patient diagnosed with Covid-19. Approximately half of the nurses (49.5%) stated that they needed psychological support. Conclusion: Nursing is a profession with long working hours, very stressful working environment, work in high-risk environments due to potential risk factors (bacteria, virus and radiation) and the shift system in hospitals. Having long working hours is a risky situation for mental health. Mental health problems are more common in nurse and thus, they need psychological support. Similarly, our study revealed that the nurses who work long hours, have night shift and experience changes in sleep patterns need psychological support. Nurses experience problems such as impaired sleep patterns, increased anxiety levels, and increased fear and anxiety about transmitting the virus to themselves, their families, loved ones, friends, and colleagues. To ensure that nurses cope with these problems and work efficiently during the Covid-19 pandemic process.

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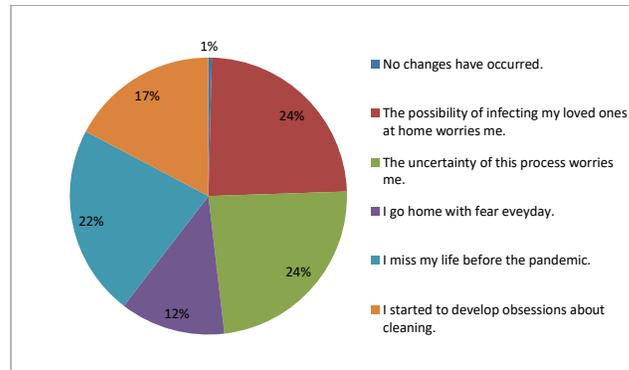
Manuscript (without Author Details).docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/734056/articles/711331-concerns-and-experiences-of-the-nurses-caring-for-the-patients-diagnosed-with-covid-19-during-the-first-wave-of-covid-19>

Figure 1 Recommendations by the nurses based on their experience during the pandemic process (n=327)



* More than one alternative were selected.

Figure 2 Changes in the lives of nurses with Covid-19 pandemic* (n=327)



* More than one alternative were selected.

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Table 1 Socio-demographic and professional characteristics of the nurses (n=327).docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/734056/articles/711331-concerns-and-experiences-of-the-nurses-caring-for-the-patients-diagnosed-with-covid-19-during-the-first-wave-of-covid-19>

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Table 2 The experiences of the nurses about the process of Covid-19 pandemic.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/734056/articles/711331-concerns-and-experiences-of-the-nurses-caring-for-the-patients-diagnosed-with-covid-19-during-the-first-wave-of-covid-19>

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Table 3 Views of the nurses about their psychological state.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/734056/articles/711331-concerns-and-experiences-of-the-nurses-caring-for-the-patients-diagnosed-with-covid-19-during-the-first-wave-of-covid-19>

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Table 4 Comparison of nurses' need for psychological support with some variables.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/734056/articles/711331-concerns-and-experiences-of-the-nurses-caring-for-the-patients-diagnosed-with-covid-19-during-the-first-wave-of-covid-19>