

ABSTRACT

RESEARCH TOPIC: Critical Care Nurses' Views of Obstacles and Supportive Behaviors in Providing End-of-Life Care to Dying Patients

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End-of-life care is an active act of compassion shown to those dying from a progressive or chronic condition resulting in eventual death. Critical care nurses encounter end-of-life care on a regular basis. The purpose of this study is to evaluate critical care nurses' perceptions of the impact of selected obstacles and supportive behaviors in providing end-of-life care. This is a replication of Beckstrand, Moore, Callister, and Bond's (2009) study. The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) and the Association of Oncology Social Work (2007) position statements provide the framework for the study. The sample will be 120 critical care nurses from four different hospitals in Indianapolis, IN. The instrument used in the study will be the National Survey of Critical Care Nurses Regarding End-of-Life Care. The findings will assist in identifying and understanding obstacles and supportive behaviors in end-of-life care.