

ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER: Nurses' Perceptions of Family Presence During Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

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The subject of family presence during resuscitation (FPDR) has been controversial worldwide, thus causing mixed attitudes and practices in clinical settings. National clinical guidelines and professional organizations have recommended allowing FPDR. However, numerous healthcare personnel, especially nurses, have reported ambivalent beliefs about FPDR. To elucidate the debate, more information is needed on nurses' perceptions of FPDR. The purpose of this study was to investigate nurses' perceptions of FPDR and the relationships of these perceptions to chosen demographic variables. This study was a partial replication of a study by Twibell et al. (2008). Guided by family system theory, data for this study were collected from 125 registered nurses working in three hospitals in southeastern Indiana. Nurses completed a survey that assessed selected perceptions related to FPDR, including benefits, self-confidence, current practices, and risks (Twibell et al.). Findings will aid nurse managers, nursing administrators, and patient care providers in understanding variables that influence nurses' decision-making related to FPDR. Applications for future education of health care professionals will be revealed.