

9th Asia Pacific Global Summit on

HEALTHCARE & IMMUNOLOGY

July 03-05, 2017 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Exploring the delirium problems and approach methods of liver ICU patients

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The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is a medical-labor-intensive critical care department equipped with specialized instruments, where most of these patients undergo endo-tracheal intubation. ICU is the strange and closed environment of providing 24 hours service for patients and research has indicated that 16-85% of ICU patients would have the delirium problems. However, if the healthcare professionals could identify the delirium problems of ICU patients earlier, they could prevent the serious consequences of disorientation, confusion, non-cooperation, unusual or irritable behaviors due to delirium problems. Consequently, the death rate of ICU patients with delirium could be decreased and their quality of lives might be increased. Additionally, the benefits of early detecting delirium problems of ICU patients included less nursing care needs, hospitalized day, mortality, but their functions could be increased. Nevertheless, the frequent interventions for delirium problems of ICU patients were sedation and restriction. For instance, in our liver ICU the patients often have the delirium problems by using the different sedations such as PCA, morphine, Haldol, Vena, Dormicum+Fentanyl, Valium with restriction; however, the delirium problems were still existed. Therefore, this study is to explore the delirium problems and approach methods of liver ICU patients in one southern medical center. Purposive samples included one head nurse and one nursing practitioner who will observe, assess, and record the delirium problems and approach methods of 20-30 liver ICU patients following the assessment scale of delirium patients for liver ICU patients developed by the research team. However, the consistency of both evaluators for the assessment scale of delirium patients will be built before conducting the assessment. Based on the information from the assessment scale of delirium patients, the research team would analyze the pattern and trend of approach methods for the liver ICU patients with the purpose of identifying the standardized care protocol. It is expected that the standardized care protocol of the liver ICU delirium patients could provide as the reference for the future clinical guidelines.

Biography

Hui-Chuan Liao is an Associate Professor in the College of Nursing, Fooyin University, who has completed her Master's in Nursing Science from Penn State University. She has taught the long-term care nursing for more than 20 years as well as conducted the practicum teaching for more than ten years both in the elderly and psychiatric settings. Currently she and her teaching team members have developed the simulation scenarios and skills of the long-term care course for the RN-BSN students. She has published approximately 10 articles related to long-term care and simulation teaching as well as 10 conference papers in the domestic and foreign areas.

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