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Status and issues of Japanese psychiatric hospitals; Based on the hearing from nursing directors

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In Japan, over 90% of the psychiatric hospitals are private hospitals where there are long stayed patients and have problems of social hospitalization and revolving door etc. The psychiatric nursing staff has various educational background and many of them are mid-career recruited workers and the employee turn-over rate is higher than general practice nurses. So the directors of nursing have been facing difficulties of career education. To clarify the difficulty of continuous learning, the needs of nurses, learning and to give some suggestions on the continuing education, we interviewed five directors of nursing service department at five different private psychiatric hospitals. As a result, we have found out they understand that the base of nursing care's quality depends on the continuing education supported by staff. So, they have been working together with the back office on a trial-and-error bases. They are looking for the way to succeed in continuing education, while experiencing difficulties. On the other hand, due to the various social backgrounds of nursing staff at private psychiatric hospitals, there is the limit to conduct conventional top-down education. They should rather have the bottom-up type learning-support programs. Moreover, it was suggested that it is important to support the directors of nursing as well as to maintain effective tie-up between the specialists.

Biography

Sachiko Deguchi has her expertise in Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing. She has completed her PhD in Psychiatric Nursing and currently she is teaching at Kitasato University. For the past 20 years, she has conducted the hearing on the Japanese people concerning their war-time experiences on how their experiences affected their lives after the war. Now she and her colleague are working research activities to form the effective support system for nursing staff of continuing education of psychiatric hospitals.

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