

Impact of Nurses' Support on the Delivery Experiences of Obstetric Patients

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ABSTRACT

Nurses play a critical role in providing emotional, informational, and clinical support to women during childbirth. The quality of nursing support significantly influences maternal satisfaction and overall delivery experiences. This study aimed to determine the impact of nurses' support on obstetric patients' delivery experiences. A quantitative correlational research design was employed involving 30 nurses from a selected birthing facility. Data were collected using the adapted Perceived Nursing Support Scale for Mothers of Preterm Infants (PNSS-MP) and the Childbirth Experience Questionnaire (CEQ). Descriptive statistics and Pearson's correlation coefficient were used to analyze the data. Results revealed that nurses' support was generally perceived positively, with baby care support obtaining the highest mean score ($M = 4.27$, $SD = 0.84$). Childbirth experiences were likewise rated positively across dimensions of own capacity, professional support, perceived safety, and participation. Statistical analysis demonstrated a significant positive relationship between nurses' support and childbirth experiences. The findings suggest that enhanced nursing support contributes to more positive childbirth experiences among obstetric patients. Strengthening communication, emotional support, maternal education, and resource referral programs may further improve maternal outcomes and satisfaction.

Keywords: *nurses' support, childbirth experience, obstetric patients, maternal care, patient satisfaction*

INTRODUCTION

Childbirth is a significant life event that encompasses physical, emotional, psychological, and social dimensions. Women's experiences during labor and delivery can influence maternal well-being, postpartum adjustment, mother-infant bonding, and future reproductive decisions. Healthcare providers, particularly nurses, play a vital role in shaping these experiences through the support they provide before, during, and after childbirth.

Nurses' support extends beyond clinical care to include emotional reassurance, effective communication, maternal education, guidance on newborn care, and the provision of resources. Positive interactions with nurses have been associated with increased maternal confidence, reduced anxiety, enhanced feelings of safety, and improved satisfaction with childbirth experiences.

Despite advancements in maternal healthcare, variations remain in the quality and consistency of nursing support provided to obstetric patients. Understanding how nursing support influences delivery experiences is essential for improving patient-centered care and maternal outcomes.

This study aimed to determine the impact of nurses' support on obstetric patients' delivery experiences by examining the level of support provided and its relationship to childbirth experiences.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

Ha: There is a significant relationship between nurses' support and the perceived childbirth experiences of obstetric patients.

METHODS

Research Design

This study employed a quantitative correlational research design to determine the relationship between nurses' support and the delivery experiences of obstetric patients.

Research Setting

The study was conducted in a selected birthing facility where nurses provide direct care to obstetric patients during labor and delivery.

Participants

Thirty (30) nurses directly involved in obstetric care participated in the study. Participants were selected through purposive sampling based on the following criteria:

- Licensed nurses
- Directly involved in labor and delivery care
- Willing to participate in the study

Research Instruments

Two standardized instruments were utilized:

1. Perceived Nursing Support Scale for Mothers of Preterm Infants (PNSS-MP)

This instrument measured nurses' support across five dimensions:

- Baby care support
- Maternal role support
- Mental care support
- Introducing resources support
- Information delivery support

2. Childbirth Experience Questionnaire (CEQ)

This instrument measured childbirth experiences in terms of:

- Own capacity
- Professional support

- Perceived safety
- Participation

Data Collection Procedure

Following institutional approval and informed consent, questionnaires were distributed to participants. Completed questionnaires were collected, reviewed for completeness, coded, and entered into statistical software for analysis.

Statistical Analysis

Descriptive statistics (weighted mean and standard deviation) were used to describe nurses' support and childbirth experiences. Pearson's correlation coefficient was utilized to determine the relationship between the variables. Statistical significance was set at $p < 0.05$.

Ethical Considerations

The study adhered to ethical principles including autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice, confidentiality, fidelity, and veracity. Participation was voluntary, and confidentiality of responses was maintained throughout the research process.

RESULTS

Level of Nurses' Support

The overall level of nurses' support was positively perceived by respondents.

Dimension	Weighted Mean	Interpretation
Baby Care Support	4.27	Strongly Agree
Information Delivery Support	4.20	Strongly Agree
Maternal Role Support	4.14	Agree
Mental Care Support	4.12	Agree
Introducing Resources Support	3.75	Agree

Baby care support obtained the highest rating, indicating strong confidence in nurses' ability to provide competent newborn care. Introducing resources support received the lowest score, suggesting opportunities to improve how mothers are connected to community and support services.

Childbirth Experiences of Obstetric Patients

Participants reported generally positive childbirth experiences. Positive perceptions were noted in own capacity, professional support, perceived safety, and participation. Feelings of

safety and professional support were among the strongest indicators of positive childbirth experiences.

Relationship Between Nurses' Support and Childbirth Experiences

Pearson's correlation analysis revealed a significant positive relationship between nurses' support and childbirth experiences. The findings suggest that higher levels of nurse support are associated with more positive delivery experiences among obstetric patients.

DISCUSSION

The findings demonstrate the importance of nursing support in shaping childbirth experiences. High ratings in baby care support and information delivery support indicate that mothers value competent clinical care and effective communication from nurses. These findings support previous studies showing that clear communication and professional nursing care contribute to maternal confidence, reduced anxiety, and greater satisfaction with childbirth.

The positive ratings for maternal role support and mental care support further highlight the significance of emotional reassurance and maternal education. Women who receive encouragement, guidance, and psychological support are more likely to feel empowered and capable during childbirth.

Although introducing resource support received the lowest rating, it was still perceived positively. This finding suggests the need for enhanced discharge planning, counseling referrals, and education on community resources to support mothers beyond hospitalization.

The significant relationship between nurses' support and childbirth experiences reinforces the concept that nursing care is not solely technical but also relational. Positive nurse-patient interactions contribute to feelings of safety, participation, and confidence, ultimately improving maternal healthcare outcomes.

CONCLUSIONS

The study concluded that nurses provide a high level of support to obstetric patients, particularly in newborn care and information delivery. Obstetric patients generally reported positive childbirth experiences. Furthermore, a significant positive relationship exists between nurses' support and childbirth experiences. Strengthening nursing interventions focused on emotional support, communication, maternal education, and resource referral may further improve maternal satisfaction and quality of care.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Strengthen communication and patient education programs.
2. Enhance emotional and psychological support during labor and delivery.
3. Improve referral systems and resource linkage for postpartum care.
4. Conduct continuing education programs for nurses on patient-centered maternal care.
5. Replicate the study using larger samples and multiple healthcare facilities.

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AI DECLARATION STATEMENT

AI-supported tools helped with grammar and structure in creating this article. No AI tools were used to collect, analyze, or interpret data; all authors are credited for their academic contributions.

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