



GLOBAL NURSING CONFERENCE

PROCEEDINGS

January 20 – 21, 2012

Volume VI
Sponsored by

SCHOOL OF NURSING
UNIVERSITY OF RIVERSIDE
Riverside, California • 92505



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RELATION BETWEEN SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE AND CLINICAL COMPETENCY OF NURSES IN MASHHAD EDUCATIONAL HOSPITALS

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Abstract

Clinical competency is one of the most important requirements in nursing profession which nurses are criticized according to it. To obtain an effective and improved form of clinical competency, several factors are observed and monitored by the health educational systems. Among these observed factors, spiritual intelligence is considered as one of the most significant factors in nurses' success and efficacy. In this study, it is aimed to determine the spiritual intelligence status and its relationship with clinical competency.

Material and Methods: The descriptive-correlational research was carried out on 250 nurses in Mashhad Educational hospitals, selected by multi-stage sampling. Demographic, clinical

competency and spiritual intelligence questionnaires were used for data collection and 212 questionnaires were analyzed by SPSS 11.5.

Results: According to the results, about 53.3% of nurses obtained an above average score in spiritual intelligence. Clinical competency was evaluated by both self-evaluation and head nurse evaluation methods. Most of the clinical competency score, 53.8%, was reported at good level based on self-evaluation; 48.2% at average level based on head nurse evaluation and 53.3% at average level based on overall score. A significant correlation was found between spiritual intelligence and clinical competency ($p<0.001$).

Conclusion: In this study, the positive significant correlation between nurses' spiritual intelligence and their clinical competency is investigated. Because of the improving effects of spiritual intelligence on nurses' clinical competency and quality of care, it is recommended to develop nurses' spiritual intelligence during their education and CME.

Keywords: Spiritual Intelligence, Clinical Competency, Nurse Training.