THE PERCEPTION OF INFORMATION NEEDS OF ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION PATIENTS AND INTENSIVE CARE NURSES: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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A Research Report submitted to the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree

Of

Master of Science in Nursing

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DECLARATION

I Jeanine Bamanisa Biamani, declare that this research is my own work. It is being submitted for the degree of Master of Sciences (Nursing) in the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. It has not been submitted before for any degree in any other University.

Signature: _____

_____ Day of MAY _____ 2011

Protocol number: M090636

DEDICATION

To all Nurses who participated in this research,

To all patients with acute myocardial infarction, especially, those who participated in this research.

To the panel of experts who validated the instrument used in this study (CPLNI).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All my gratitude to God for protection and provision throughout my study.

There is a large circle of people around this study I would like to thank for their support, insight and contributions.

Many of those who have contributed the most time and insight – the patients, intensive care nurses and the staff to the institution where the research was conducted will remain nameless for purposes of confidentiality. I have the deepest appreciation for the time they dedicated, the seriousness with which they considered our questions, the wisdom and insight they put forward.

I thank my husband Etienne Yav and my children for their support and motivation during the accomplishment of this research. Thanks to my parents .

A special thank you to my supervisor Miss Shelley Schmollgruber for her valuable input, time and patience during this research, and especially for her day by day support and encouragement.

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I would like to thank Doctor Steve Olurunju, the biostatistician for the statistical analysis and interpretation of the data. Thanks to Doctor Neil Barnes who edited this research report.

Finally, thank you for the cardiologists doctors and seniors intensive care nurses as part of experts group for their input into the validation of the instrument used in this study. Thank you to the CEO and nursing managers from the institution where the research was carried out and it relevant personnel who gave of their time so enthusiastically and generously to support the study.

ABSTRACT

In this present study, the instrument cardiac patients learning needs inventory (CPLNI) was assessed for validity and reliability by four cardiology doctors, two critical care nurses, and one patient with a history of myocardial infarction (stage one of the study). The instrument was not modified as a result of non modified CPLNI used in the pilot study which consisted of thirty seven items of information grouped into eight clusters (constructs).

The aim of the study was to describe and compare intensive care nurses and patients perceptions of information needs of acute myocardial infarction patients at a public sector tertiary hospital in Johannesburg. The study has made recommendations for clinical practice and education of intensive care nurses.

A quantitative, non experimental, descriptive, prospective two-part design using questionnaires was utilized in this study to find out what information out of that commonly given following myocardial infarction, patients and critical care nurses rated as being most and least important (stage two). These results were then compared with the results obtained from patients and nurses who were given the same instrument to complete. Seventy six subjects were recruited. Results indicated that some similarities existed between the patients and the nurses in terms of what they perceived as the most and least important clusters/constructs of information. The item one (what to do if I get chest pain)was ranked first with a frequency of seventy five(98,68%). The scores for some informational clusters included on the instrument were significantly different between the patient and the nurses groups ($p<0.05$). The constructs miscellaneous ($p=0.0054$), physical activity ($p=0.0022$) and symptom management ($p=0.0284$) were statistically significant. These findings and others are discussed, and recommendations are made for improving the information given on post myocardial infarction,

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