



S4 VENUE M4 Health promotion
responses to the COVID-19 pandemic

The nurses' willingness and needs to participate in care of COVID-19 patients in Taiwan

Feng-Lien Lin, Shu-Ing Gong, Pao-Yu Chuang

Department of Nursing,
National Taiwan University Hospital

October 12, 2021



Background

- The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has increased the health risk for nurses.
- Nurses leave their frontline job.
- Nurses' willingness of caring for COVID-19 patients and nurses' needs are the core elements to face the pandemic in the healthcare system.
- **This study aimed to explore clinical nurses' willingness and needs to care for patients with COVID-19 in Taiwan.**



Methods

- In this **descriptive study**, convenience sampling is adopted.
- an **online questionnaire** survey was conducted among nurses in the **general ward** and the **intensive care unit** in an academic hospital in Taiwan.
- The questionnaire with **demographic** characteristics, **the scale of willingness and needs** among nurses.
- The scale of **0-3** (0: not at all, 3: very much) of each item is rated to assess the degree of willingness and need.



Results

- A total of 495 valid questionnaires were collected.
- The nurses' willingness for caring the patient with COVID-19 was below 1.51.
- For the participants with the experience of caring for patients with highly infectious diseases, the willingness was higher than those without the experience of care ($p < .05$).
- The physical domain was the major need for the participants, followed by the psychological domain.



The difference of willingness between the experience of COVID-19 patients

Item	Overall	① Contacted/cared for people who have been in quarantine (n=26)	② Cared for suspected cases (n=212)	③ Cared for suspected and confirmed cases (n=21)	④ No contact or caring experience (n=176)	p value
	mean±SD	mean±SD	mean±SD	mean±SD	mean±SD	
Willingness to care COVID-19 patient						
1. Willing to take care of "suspected" COVID-19 patients?	1.50±0.79	1.46± 0.71	1.56± 0.74	2.10± 0.99	1.37± 0.79	<0.001 (③>②;③>④)
2. Willing to take care of "confirmed" COVID-19 patients?	1.24±0.86	1.27± 0.72	1.24± 0.84	1.90± 0.99	1.15± 0.85	0.002 (③>②;③>④)
3. Willing to go to the special ward to take care COVID-19 patients?	1.11±0.86	1.19± 0.80	1.10± 0.81	1.90± 1.09	1.03± 0.86	<0.001 (③>①②④)



The difference of willingness for gender, accommodation, and experience

Item	Sex		<i>t</i>	<i>p</i> value	Accommodation		<i>t</i>	<i>p</i> value	Have taken care of SARS patients		<i>t</i>	<i>p</i> value
	①Male(n=14)	②Female (n=421)			①No accommodation(n=309)	②Accommodation (n=126)			①Never took care of SARS patients (n=346)	②Take care of SARS patients (n=89)		
	mean± SD	mean± SD			mean± SD	mean± SD			mean± SD	mean± SD		
Willingness to care COVID-19 patient												
1. Willing to take care of "suspected" COVID-19 patients?	1.46±0.78	1.51±0.79	-0.20	0.84	1.50±0.78	1.52±0.82	-0.33	0.75	1.48±0.79	1.62±0.76	-1.53	0.13
2. Willing to take care of "confirmed" COVID-19 patients?	1.43±0.94	1.23±0.86	0.84	0.40	1.21±0.85	1.30±0.87	-0.97	0.33	1.18±0.87	1.47±0.79	-2.90	0.004
3. Willing to go to the special ward for COVID-19 patients?	1.21±0.98	1.11±0.86	0.44	0.66	1.11±0.83	1.13±0.92	-0.30	0.77	1.05±0.85	1.37±0.87	-3.18	0.002



Conclusions

- The nurses' willingness for caring the patient with COVID-19 was **low** in this study.
- The nurses' **experience** of caring for patients with highly infectious diseases, willingness was higher than those without the experience of care.
- The **physical domain** was the major need for the nurses.
- The findings of this study may serve as a reference for creating a **positive practice environment** and a **healthy workplace** for clinical nurses and health providers.



Thank you

