

# **Nurses' attitudes toward restraint use in Japanese hospitals**

Miho Matsui

National Defense Medical College



# Learner Objectives

- The learner will be able to understand Japanese nurses' attitudes towards restraint use in acute care settings.
- The learner will be able to understand factors related to views of restraint use among nurses.



# Background

The use of restraints is a controversial issue that may present nurses with legal, ethical and practical dilemmas. Restraint use can result in numerous problems for the patients, including death by strangulation, falls injuries, deconditioning, skin breakdown, incontinence, constipation and psychological effects such as agitation and emotional distress. The aim of this study was to investigate nurses' attitudes towards restraint use and related factors.



# Method

A descriptive study was conducted to measure nurses' attitudes toward restraint use. Nurses employed in areas of internal, surgical, and sanatorium wards of three hospitals received the questionnaire.



# PRUQ

Japanese Version of Perceptions of Restraint Use Questionnaire (PRUQ), which is 17 item questionnaire measures nurses' attitudes toward restraint use, was used.

Each item is ranked on a 5-point Likerttype scale. A higher score indicates that the item is considered to be an important justification for the use of physical restraints.

The instrument was judged to have face and content validity by a panel of gerontology nurse experts.

# Results

- ◆ The questionnaire was sent to a total of 227 nurses and was returned by 205, giving a response rate of 90.3%.
- ◆ The sample had a mean age of 35.8 years (range 20–62 years, SD 10.1) and had been nursing for an average of 7.6 years (range 0.4–34 years, SD 7.4). The majority of respondents were women (94.6%).
- ◆ Nearly half of the respondents (45.1%) worked in internal wards, and surgical wards (24.4%) or sanatorium wards (25.4%).

# Comparisons of PRUQ Scores

Content of Items	internal	surgical	sanatorium	P value
1. Protecting an older person from falling?				
a.out of bed	3.52	4.02	3.57	0.025*
b.out of chair	3.32	3.55	3.49	0.331
c. unsafe ambulation	2.66	3.08	2.78	0.101
2. Preventing an older person from wandering?	2.34	2.71	2.14	0.018*
3. Preventing and older person from taking things from others?	2.03	2.53	1.98	0.009**
4. Preventing an older person from getting into dangerous places or supplies?	2.54	3.12	2.51	0.005**
5. Keeping a confused older person from bothering others?	2.48	2.86	2.30	0.017*

one-way analysis of variance, \*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01

# Comparisons of PRUQ Scores (cont.)

Content of Items	Internal	surgical	sanatorium	P value
6. Prevent an older person from				
a. pulling out a catheter?	3.68	4.14	3.82	0.026*
b. pulling out a feeding tube?	3.57	3.94	3.82	0.058
c. pulling out an IV feeding tube?	3.42	3.92	3.65	0.017*
d. breaking open sutures?	3.75	4.10	3.96	0.100
e. removing a dressing?	3.25	3.80	3.41	0.018*
7. Providing quiet time or rest for an overactive older person?	1.78	2.04	1.86	0.257
8. Providing for safety when judgement is impaired?	2.36	2.90	2.49	0.017*
9. Insufficient staff to observe patient?	1.53	1.92	1.71	.044*
10. Protecting staff or other patients from physical abusiveness/combativeness?	2.58	2.90	2.32	0.013*
11. Management of agitation?	2.34	2.92	2.20	0.001**

one-way analysis of variance, \*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01



# Conclusions

Nurses' attitudes toward restraint use showed positive about preventing from pulling out catheter, feeding tube, and IV, moreover, different attitudes were observed among three wards.

