

A study to examine the caring efficacy of nurses

Submission date 05/05/2020	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 12/05/2020	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 10/05/2022	Condition category Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

A supportive ethical climate and ethical sensitivity are essential for nurses to understand the vulnerability of and discern the caring needs of their care recipients. However, the impact of contextual and personal factors on the caring efficacy of nurses from an ethical perspective has not received research attention. The aims of this study are to investigate the associations between ethical climate and the caring efficacy of nurses, as well as the mediating role of ethical sensitivity in this association.

Who can participate?

Enrolled nurses or registered nurses who work as full-time nursing staff

What does the study involve?

A total of 191 participants will be recruited by random sampling from two hospitals. Participants will complete a set of online questionnaires to examine the associations between ethical climate and the caring efficacy of nurses and the mediating role of ethical sensitivity.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The associations of ethical climate and ethical sensitivity with caring efficacy of nurses revealed from this study will guide ways to cultivate a conducive environment and strengthen the caring competency of nurses. The results of this study will enable evidence-based caring practice for providing holistic care and improving quality of care. There is no potential risk of participating in this study.

Where is the study run from?

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

May 2020 to April 2021

Who is funding the study?

Nethersole Institute of Continuing Holistic Health Education (Hong Kong)

Who is the main contact?

Dr Fiona Tang

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Contact information

Type(s)

Public

Contact name

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Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

Protocol serial number

Proposal_Caring project_version 1_2.4.2019

Study information

Scientific Title

Impacts of the ethical climate of the clinical environment and ethical sensitivity of nurses on their caring efficacy

Study objectives

There are two objectives in the study:

1. To examine the association of ethical climate of clinical environment and ethical sensitivity of nurses with their caring efficacy
2. To investigate the mediation effect of ethical sensitivity on the association between ethical climate and caring efficacy

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 25/09/2019, Joint Chinese University of Hong Kong and New Territories East Cluster Research Ethics Committee (8/F, Lui Che Woo Clinical Sciences Building, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, Hong Kong; +852 (0)3505 3935; crec@cuhk.edu.hk), ref: 2019.226

Study design

Descriptive correlational study with a cross-sectional design

Primary study design

Observational

Study type(s)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Caring efficacy of nurses

Interventions

Participants will be randomly selected from two local hospitals. The complete list of eligible nurses affiliated to the hospitals will be used to compile a sample frame for random selection of participants.

Participants will complete a set of online questionnaires, which consists of three scales: Hospital Ethical Climate Survey, Moral Sensitivity Questionnaire-Revised and Caring Efficacy Scale. The approach of Baron and Kenny will be adopted to examine the associations between ethical climate and caring efficacy of nurses and the mediating role of ethical sensitivity.

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

1. Nurses' appraisal of ethical climate of clinical environment measured using Hospital Ethical Climate Survey (HECS) at a single timepoint
2. Ethical sensitivity of nurses measured by Moral Sensitivity Questionnaire-Revised (MSQ-R) at a single timepoint
3. Caring efficacy of nurses measured using Caring Efficacy Scale (CES) at a single timepoint

Key secondary outcome(s))

There are no secondary outcome measures

Completion date

30/04/2021

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Enrolled Nurses or Registered Nurses
2. Work as full-time nursing staff
3. Consent to participate in the study

Participant type(s)

Health professional

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Does not meet inclusion criteria

Date of first enrolment

15/05/2020

Date of final enrolment

31/12/2020

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

Hong Kong

Study participating centre

Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital

11 Chuen On Rd, Tai Po, NT

Hong Kong

Hong Kong

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Study participating centre

Tai Po Hospital

9 Chuen On Rd, Tai Po, NT

Hong Kong

Hong Kong

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Sponsor information

Organisation

Chinese University of Hong Kong

ROR

<https://ror.org/00t33hh48>

Funder(s)

Funder type

University/education

Funder Name

Nethersole Institute of Continuing Holistic Health Education (NICHE)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study during this study will be included in the subsequent results publication.

IPD sharing plan summary

Other

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes