Nurses’ views of patient handoffs in Japanese hospitals

Staff perceptions of risks associated with patient handoffs were investigated in a survey of nurses in 6 Japanese hospitals. A total of 1462 valid responses were collected from nurses with an overall response rate of 74%. Respondents are moderately satisfied with the transfer of information and responsibility during handoffs. However, the handoff system was identified as immature. Hospital, work setting, and work experience affected nurses’ views of handoff quality. Strategies for improving patient handoffs in Japan are proposed.

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