Does The Implementation Of A Mindfulness Based Intervention Effect Stress and Burnout In Nursing

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Abstract : Stress and burnout in the bedside registered nurse have deleterious consequences for registered nurses, patients, and the hospitals that employ them. The objective of this study was to determine whether a sixty-minute mindfulness workshop was effective in reducing perceived levels of stress and decreasing mindfulness in registered nurses working in the acute care setting. Registered nurses at a community hospital in the Northeast part of the country were recruited through e-mail and flyers in breakrooms. Participants completed the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) and Mindfulness Attention Awareness Scale (MAAS) two weeks prior to taking part in the intervention and two weeks post intervention. Of the twenty-three registered nurses who completed the baseline questionnaires, 91% were female with an average age between 30-39 years. Sixty-five percent of subjects completed the questionnaires two weeks post intervention. Two weeks post intervention, registered nurses reported a decrease in perception of stress (pre and post PSS was .133) and was not significant (t=1.293, df=14, p=.217). Likewise, an increase in mindful attention .325 was reported two-weeks post intervention and indicated a favorable tendency to enter a mindful state. This finding was also not significant (t=-1.990, df=14, p=.066). In this study, nurses reported decreases in perceived stress and increases in mindfulness after attending a sixty-minute mindfulness workshop. Further research is needed to determine the long-term impact of mindfulness-based training on nurses' stress and mindfulness skills. The results of this study add to the body of literature that supports the benefits of mindfulness-based interventions in the healthcare setting.

Keywords: Stress, burnout, nursing, acute care nursing

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