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Glimpse of Care:

OBSTETRIC NURSES' LIVED EXPERIENCES IN DEALING WITH POSTPARTUM CLIENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



INTRODUCTION

The surge of the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically altered the care of obstetric nurses to postpartum clients. Since the mother's attention is likely centered on her experiences and her child, the mother relies mainly on care provided by nurses during these post-pregnancy phases. Consequently, the weight of maternal well-being is hinged on obstetric nurses and their nursing management of the mother.

OBJECTIVES

aims to explore the lived experiences of obstetric nurses in dealing with postpartum clients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The study is BENEFICIAL FOR...

- Obstetric nurses** to provide insight towards the various experiences during the postpartum period in clinicals.
- Postpartum clients'** awareness about the experiences of front liner obstetric nurses to gain cooperation.
- Hospital institutions'** awareness to address problems identified and strengthen the existing processes for improved patient outcomes.
- Community** to inform regarding the experiences faced by the obstetric nurses during COVID 19, which may improve their compliance with health and the roles of nurses will be more understood.

METHODOLOGY:

RESEARCH DESIGN

Phenomenological approach to qualitative research



PARTICIPANTS AND LOCALE

Through purposive sampling, the study included 10 obstetric nurses of Lorma Medical Center in Carlatan, City of San Fernando, La Union who had experienced dealing with postpartum clients

DATA GATHERING PROCEDURE

- Obtaining permission from the school and approval from the Research Ethics Committee.
- Validation of guide questions was done through members checking.
- A communication letter was sent to the head of the obstetric nurses' department of Lorma Medical Center.
- A letter of consent was given to the participants prior to the interview. After the interview, the researchers expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the time and effort of the participants.

RESEARCH GATHERING TOOL

Predetermined set of guide questions was utilized and followed by open-ended questions depending on the responses of the participants

FINDINGS

The findings extracted from the impacts and experiences of the obstetric nurses includes being summoned to a challenge, compromised safety, mental stress and expedite exhaustion.



The researchers have discerned various coping mechanisms of obstetric nurses such as reliance on support systems, balance in life and work, improving communication between nurse and patient, assistance from other healthcare professionals and optimism.

The practices and nursing interventions of obstetric nurses include wearing PPEs, incorporating newly implemented protocols, utilizing virtual communication, and health education on taking medications, multivitamins, and supplements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Develop and prescribe better PPEs for healthcare workers. Not only one genetic PPE. Proper infection control protocols and plenty of PPEs for staff treating suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

Resources such as counseling management (social support groups, conferences, or seminars) to discover effective coping strategies amidst the COVID-19 pandemic to improve their physical and emotional health.

Continuously improving the temporary strategies with advanced strict infection control and developing them into permanent solutions to prepare for the possible emergence of other infectious viruses in the future.

Conduct a more comprehensive study about the experiences of obstetric nurses in dealing with postpartum clients during the COVID-19 pandemic in other hospital institutions in La Union.

