

# Assignment



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## **Distractions Impacting Patient-Centered Care**

Name

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Instructor

Date Submitted

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## Conclusions from Study Findings

Researchers did studies to identify the distractions in the nursing sector inside the surgery rooms, resulting in insightful findings that go a long way in helping to improve clinical service delivery. However, a gap existed since the studies concentrated inside the surgical arena. Therefore, Kollstedt et al. decided to conduct their study titled “*Hospital Nurses’ Perceptions about Distractions to Patient-Centered Care Delivery.*” They found out that there are many distractions as the nurses deliver their day-to-day services to the patients.

The finding shows that distractions are a common occurrence and hinder patient care. Since a large percentage of nurses agree, 87% to be exact, it implies that patient care suffers from major blockages caused by the distractions. Service delivery has to be free from distractions for achieving quality care. The distractions from family visits, telephones ringing, equipment availability, among many, are some of the significant distractors acknowledged by the nurses who gave their responses (Kollstedt et al., 2019). It is evident that distraction factors are many outside the surgical field and undoubtedly hinder nurses’ top productivity.

The research found that distractions from conversations and music are minimal during treatments and changeovers. Though slightly above 65% of the respondents agreed to the issue, many nurses still thought otherwise. It shows that the policies to keep distractions away are not adhered to or not adequately formulated. The hand-off communication and medication phases are essential in ensuring excellent service delivery to patients (Kollstedt et al., 2019). The nurses seem distracted when carrying out such activities, raising the need to have proper interventions.

Another finding showed that staffing-related issues to be the cause of distractions among the nurses. On a scale of 0-10, the staffing-related issues were the highest, standing at 3.3. The issues are usually not related to the nurses and are more concerned with management. For instance, the control allowing telephones in patients’ rooms may cause disturbance hence lowering the concentration of the nurses as they deliver medication (Kollstedt et al., 2019). Therefore, the staffing factor reveals that the management is also responsible for creating distractions that affect patient care. However, the study had limitations due to the small sample size.

## Implications for Clinical Practice

Distractions have severe implications in clinical practice. One of them is the increased risk of medication error. Each interruption that the nurse experiences increases the percentage of errors

proven fatal in many cases. Therefore, there must be rational interventions to ensure that the patient care processes do not harm them. The second implication involves multitasking due to distraction, which may cause a failure in all the operations attended by the same person. Concentration level is deficient and fatigue increases, resulting in omissions, negatively impacting patient care. The other implication is that completion of tasks will not be possible since when a nurse leaves a patient's room due to distraction, they may never return to complete it. They tend to forget what was going on before the distraction. Therefore, there is a need for the management and the responsible bodies to make policies to ensure quality patient service.

Patient-centered care is a matter that holds gravity. There is a need to eliminate all distractions, whether inside the surgical room or outside. However, while making the interventions, rationality should be practiced to ensure that there is no blockage of healthy distractions that may benefit patient care.

## References

Kollstedt, K., Fowler, S. B., & Weissman, K. (2019). Hospital Nurses' Perceptions about Distractions to Patient-Centered Care Delivery. *MedSurg Nursing*, 28(4).

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**Norma S.**  
Florida, USA

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