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Prospective Study

Correlation between crowdedness in emergency departments and anxiety in Chinese patients

Wang S *et al.* Crowdedness in emergency departments

Shuang Wang, Jun-Yi Gao, Xiang Li, Yu Wu, Xiao-Xia Huo, Chao-Xia Han, Meng-Jie Kang, Hong Sun, Bao-Lan Ge, Yu Liu, Ying-Qing Liu, Jian-Ping Zhou, Zhen Wang

Abstract

BACKGROUND

Emergency department (ED) overcrowding is a severe health care concern, while anxiety and depression rates among ED patients have been reported to be substantially higher compared to the general population. In the present study we hypothesized that anxiety due to over crowdedness may lead to adverse events in EDs.

AIM

To investigate correlations between crowdedness in EDs and anxiety of patients and nurses, and to identify factors affecting their anxiety.

METHODS

In this prospective observational study, a total 43 nurses and 389 emergency patients

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The study reported here was descriptive correlational in design. The sample was 102 Chinese patients with low back pain who were newly admitted to an acute care hospital in Hong Kong. Data were collected through individual interviews, using an 11-point numerical pain rating scale and the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale.

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