
[14]Poster presentation

[14-3]Process through which critical care nurses overcome patient death due to accidents or disasters

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Presentation language : Japanese

[Objective] To clarify the process through which critical care nurses (hereinafter referred to as nurses) overcome patient deaths from critical incidents, such as accidents and disasters. [Methods] Data were collected through semi-structured interviews with 10 nurses who had experienced critical incident stress and analyzed with a modified grounded theory approach. [Ethical Considerations] Participants were provided with written and verbal explanations about ethical considerations and consented to participation in the study after ethical review approval. [Results] Nurses face patient deaths from critical incidents, become in “a state in which they cannot control their emotions,” and feel “remorse for care.” While they “searched for a coping method” and “acquired a coping method,” they also underwent changes in memories of experiences over time. They become capable of “using experiences to pursue nursing care” and “approving nursing care” through reflection. They then “practiced care towards the nursing care they aimed for” and “aspired for physical and mental support systems.” [Discussion] Nurses were found to overcome patient deaths from critical incidents through coping, reflection, and approval of their own nursing care. Our findings suggest the necessity of improving physical and mental support systems for nurses.