What affects back pain among patients after cardiac catheterization?

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Back pain is commonly reported by patients after undertaking cardiac catheterization (CC), a widely used procedure to examine the heart status. The study is a secondary analysis of data from a randomized control trial among Chinese adults receiving emergency CC in Hong Kong. Back pain was measured by the Numeric Pain Intensity Scale at 6 hour and the next morning after CC. Potential influencing factors (age, gender, history of back pain, body weight, type of dressing, length of bed rest, turning privilege, catheter size, duration of procedure and hemostasis) were collected through a structured questionnaire. Multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was employed to examine the factors associated with back pain. A total of 419 patients (279 males and 140 females) with a mean age of 61.6 (SD=11.1, range 21-87) years were analyzed. The mean body weight was 64.1 (SD=11.1) kg, and 206 (49.2%) patients were prescribed with turning privilege during the first 7 hours after CC. Finally, the MANOVA analysis revealed three factors significantly correlated with back pain, including turning privilege (p=0.001), body weight (p=0.006), and age (p=0.04). Patients who had turning privilege, heavier weight, and younger age reported more back pain after CC. With a better understanding of patients’ physical needs, nurses could thereby provide timely nursing interventions to improve comfort of patients after the procedure. The current study findings contributed to evidence-based nursing practices for post-CC patients in Hong Kong.

Biography

Sek Ying Chair is the Director and Professor of the Nethersole School of Nursing at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She is the President of Hong Kong College of Cardiac Nursing and an Honorary Advisor of Hong Kong College of Critical Care Nursing and the Institute of Advanced Nursing Studies, Hospital Authority. Her research interests focus on cardiovascular and critical care nursing and she has published over 100 peer-reviewed research articles. She is the Co-Editor of Connect: the World of Critical Care Nursing and an Editorial Board Member of Asian Nursing Research and Journal of Research in Nursing.

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