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Assessment of the culture of patient safety by professionals in the surgical area

People at the center of healthcare system transformations

Patient Safety

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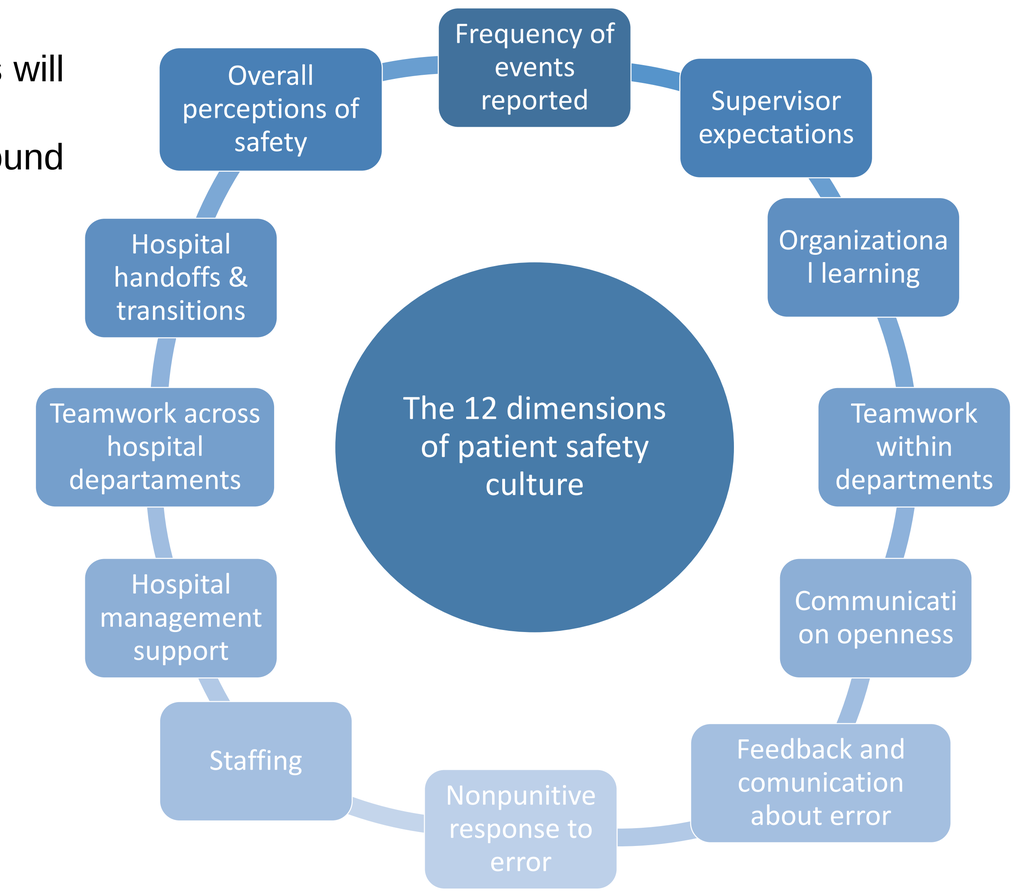
CONTEXT and AIMS

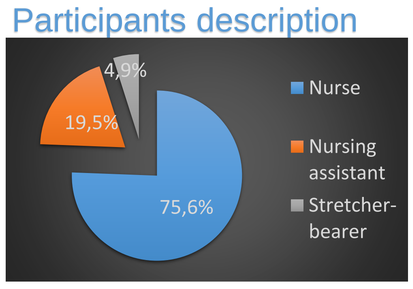
Every year, many millions of people undergo surgical treatment and 25% of this patients will present complications after operations. In Spain, adverse events due to surgery are around 10.5% CI95% (8.1% -12.5%), of which 36.5% would be preventable.

- The main aim of the study is to evaluate the culture of patient safety by surgical area professionals.
- The work is a cross-sectional observational study about the perception of the patient safety culture by professionals in the surgical area.
- The sample is all nursing staff and nursing assistants who meet the inclusion criteria.
- The study variables are the 12 dimensions of patient safety culture, the security climate and sociodemographic data
- The instrument which we use to collect the dates is survey “Hospital Survey on Patient Safety”.



FINDINGS

Participants description



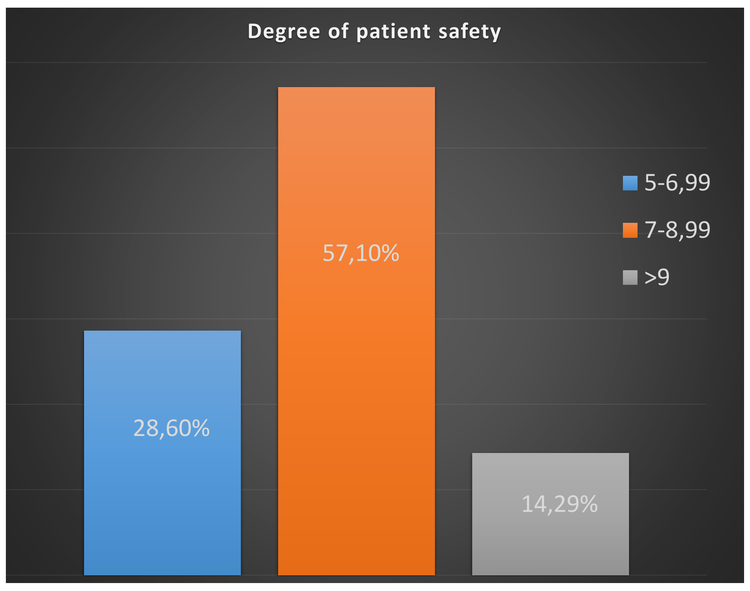
n=41(51.89%)

Female 85.45%

Average age: 38 years (SD = 11.62)

77.2% of notifications were made by nurses

The overall rating of patient safety: 7.18 (SD 1.21)



The dimensions with the highest percentage of positive response

- “Supervisor/manager expectations and actions promoting safety”
- “Organizational learning-continuous improvement”

The dimensions with the lowest percentage of positive responses

- “Communication openness”
- “No punitive response to error”
- “Staffing”
- “Overall perceptions of safety”

The main findings

- Work pace is a factor that can lead to mistakes
- Errors regarding patient safety should be considered a team problem and not an individual one
- Staffing and organization of staff is a key point in patient safety
- Take advantage of the proactive attitude of the service to encourage reporting, learning from mistakes and designing improvement strategies

INNOVATIVE CONTRIBUTION TO POLICY, PRACTICE AND/OR RESEARCH

The results show that we have to work to improve the patient safety culture. Promoting the culture of patient safety in our staff, we will achieve greater involvement of nurses in patient care. We can observe that there is a positive attitude for change that we should take advantage of and design improvements strategies where nurses lead the change and contribute with their knowledge about safe practice. On the other hand, the institutions have to improve the organization of staff.

The authors declare no conflicts of interest