Nurse’s Role in Applying Telemedicine in the Management of Heart Failure in Elderly.

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Purpose of the study

With recent development in communication and information technology, telemedicine has been employed in the health care system to manage heart failure patients especially in elderly due to increased deaths and rehospitalization. It also provides quick access to care from afar. This study aims at identifying the roles nurses play while applying telemedicine to manage heart failure in elderly by answering the research question; what is the nurse’s role in telemedicine in treating elderly patient with heart failure?

METHODS

Due to limited time, resources and the authors language background, literature review method of data collection was employed in the study. Relevant articles that were written in English and can be assessed freely were selected after a comprehensive search from EBSCO, PubMed, and science direct data bases using Arcada’s library’s web page and from the internet with relevant key words as; nursing and telemedicine, heart failure and elderly, telemedicine and the role of nurses. The articles selected were analysed using the inductive content analysis of the grounded theory.

RESULT

Nurses performs different nursing roles that includes; administrative, technical and patient centered roles in which several digital devices are involved. By performing these roles that requires an aspect of patient’s participation, selfcare adherence, constant monitoring, early detection of sympoms and improved Knowledge about heart failure disease management were improved and there were reduced rehospitalization and deaths.

CONCLUSION

The study provides knowledge about telemedicine and the roles nurses can play in applying it in the management of heart failure. It was not clear therefore, which role contributed most to the improved results, more research is needed.