Response to Amber

**Response to Amber**

It is quite interesting to know about Amber views about cultural assessment. Cultural assessment is that patients have a right to their values, cultural belief, and practices. All these factors must be considered, respected and understood when providing culturally competent care. Information that is obtained from cultural assessment helps nurses and patients to prepare a mutually acceptable and culturally responsive care plan. In my opinion, the first step in cultural assessment is to know about the patient illness in terms of the unique culture of patients (Crawford, Candlin, & Roger, 2017).

We should explore the values and attitudes of the patient and their family concerning the meaning of disease and traditional healing practice as compare to western health care. Another component of the cultural assessment that I practice in my practice is ‘belief’. In this patient and his family, spirituals and religious belief are determined. Culture assessment also includes the determination of patient place of birth, socioeconomic status, immigrant/refugee status, and language. I believe that it is very important to take into account the patient's interpretation of disease experience as this will improve culturally sensitive care (Brooks, Manias, & Bloomer, 2019).

Effective communication between nurses and patients is a critical element to adequate health care. I believe that becoming aware of the behavior, attitude, beliefs, and biases of patients can help us to improve access to health care. Effective communication skills also help to develop a strategic plan which helps in achieving cultural competence goal (Tuohy, 2019). Culturally sensitive communication requires respect and understanding for patients and promotes satisfaction. Both verbal and nonverbal communication is important to identify individualized patient needs. In my opinion, the communication quality in the interaction between patients and nurses has a main influence on patient outcomes. therefore, communication should be clear so that information can be effectivity conveyed to the patient (Narayan, 2003).

In conclusion, effective communication requires both interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills and it is essential in proper patient assessment, counseling, and education.

**References**

Brooks, L. A., Manias, E., & Bloomer, M. J. (2019). Culturally sensitive communication in healthcare: A concept analysis. *Collegian, 26*(3), 383-391.

Crawford, T., Candlin, S., & Roger, P. (2017). New perspectives on understanding cultural diversity in nurse–patient communication. *Collegian, 24*(1), 63-69.

Narayan, M. C. (2003). Cultural assessment and care planning. *Home Healthcare Now, 21*(9), 611-618.

Tuohy, D. (2019). Effective intercultural communication in nursing. *Nursing Standard, 34*(2).