

Independent Study Title Effects of Nursing Program on Vascular Complications and Discomfort Among Patients Undergoing Cardiac Catheterization, Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai Hospital

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ABSTRACT

Discomfort is a common experience among patients undergoing cardiac catheterization via femoral artery. These patients require immobilization and assigned time in bed for prevention of vascular complications. Therefore, developing a nursing program to decrease vascular complications and relieve discomfort among this population is needed. This quasi-experimental study aimed to examine the effects of a nursing program on vascular complications and discomfort among post cardiac catheterization patients at Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai Hospital. Sixty persons were assigned into either the experimental group (n=30) or the control group (n=30). Experimental group received a nursing program with assigned 3 hours bed rest, while the control group received standard care with assigned 6 hours bed rest. Vascular complications were evaluated by using a Vascular Complications Assessment Form developed by the researcher. Additionally, discomfort was evaluated by Discomfort Visual Analog Scale developed by Untaja (2000). Comparison of vascular complications and discomfort scores between the two groups were analyzed using Chi-square test and t-test.

Findings are described as follows:

1. There were no significant difference in vascular complications between the experimental group received a nursing program with assigned 3 hours bed rest and the control group received standard care with assigned 6 hours bed rest.
2. There were no significant difference in discomfort scores between the two groups.

The findings of the study support the development of a nursing program for preventing vascular complications and alleviating discomfort while immobilized to decrease bed rest time among patients undergoing cardiac catheterization. Moreover, the findings also could contribute to nursing knowledge, especially nursing practice.

