

Title: Nurses behavior towards clinical alarms in Intensive Care Units

The critical patient depends on equipment's that produce different type of alarms, allowing early identification of changes in their clinical condition. The complexity of alarms management can be one of the explanations for the occurrence of adverse events, which justifies the importance of reflecting on nursing practice concerning the theme of clinical alarms monitoring.

Objective: Identify the nurse behaviors towards clinical alarms in intensive care units

Methods: Literature integrative review; "Clinical alarms", "Nurs*", "Critical care" PI[C]OD. Ten databases were selected, between 2004-2016, 6 articles were included for analysis.

Results/ Discussion: It is recognized that nurses behavior toward clinical alarms is not linear and range from: changing the parameters at the beginning of each shift, to ignore a large majority of them. There isn't a collective way of act. Each individual has its own dynamics and knowledge, acting in accordance with them. Factors such as the number of team members, the number of false alarms, professional stress, are also prevalent.

Conclusion: The hemodynamic monitoring has its primary goal the early alert changes in the clinical condition of the patient. Healthcare professionals have awareness of the bipolarity of clinical alarms. If by one hand these can be allies to their performance, by other can be constraints to their care giving. However, excessive false alarms can lead not only to desensitization of professionals but also to the interruption of work dynamic, endangering patient safety.

Key words: intensive care, clinical alarms, safety, nursing interventions