



Family Centered Rounds in the paediatric intensive care unit; a literature study

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Background and aims

The aim of this literature study was to describe the pros and cons of parental participation in the daily ward rounds on the paediatric intensive care unit (PICU) from the perspective of the patient, the parents and the healthcare professionals.

Methods

We searched PubMed and CINAHL for relevant studies published between January 2006 and December 2016. Search terms were: PICU, paediatric intensive care unit, rounds, family centered rounds, shared decision making, parental presence, parent participation. All identified records were independently reviewed for relevance by two investigators.

Results: We found 46 articles. After screening of titles and abstracts, 12 articles were selected for a critical review. Subjects studied were: participation in family centered rounds at the PICU (FCR), perception of the patient, the parents and the health care professionals.

The studies showed that:

- The healthcare professionals see benefits of FCR, providing it is carefully organized and prepared
- The healthcare professionals have incorrect assumptions regarding parental experience of FCR
- Prior to parental participation, provision of oral and written information is useful to aid understanding (and effectiveness)
- Parents should be actively invited to take part, but their presence must not be an obligation
- Parents feel more involved in the treatment of their child
- An appropriate structure of the rounds is crucial
- Due to a difference in the behavior of the healthcare professionals that FCR creates, it generally results in a longer duration of rounds, and also affects the quality of education opportunities at the bedside



Conclusions: FCR can contribute to better understanding and respect between parents and healthcare professionals and leads to increased parent satisfaction. Parents feel more involved in decision-making and there is better communication between parents and healthcare professionals. Healthcare professionals perception's of parental experience of FCR is based on incorrect assumptions.