



# Relationship Between Patient Safety Culture, Attitudes Towards Patient Safety, and Moral Intelligence Among Nurses Working at Imam Khomeini Hospital in Esfarayen City, 2024

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** One of the most important issues in the health sector, especially in medical centers, is the quality of care. The quality of care consists of elements of which patient safety is one of the most important. International evidence in many countries shows that the safety of patients in health and treatment centers is not favorable; according to the report of the World Health Organization in developed countries, one out of every 10 patients suffer side effects while receiving hospital services. Nurses' beliefs and moral and behavioral values are fundamental to their commitment to maintaining patient safety while performing their nursing roles. They can affect the safety status of patients, which is one of the main components of quality of care. In this regard, the examination of moral intelligence is one of the categories that can be a suitable test for measuring the moral ability of nurses because moral intelligence is the ability to understand correctly, have strong moral beliefs and act on them, and have a high level of moral intelligence means doing things right. Moreover, it will follow the continuous coordination of actions with beliefs and values. Therefore, this research investigated the relationship between patient safety culture, attitude towards patient safety, and moral intelligence in nurses working in Imam Khomeini Hospital (RA) in Esfarayen in 2024.

**Methods and Materials:** The current study is cross-sectional and descriptive-analytical. The statistical population consists of nurses working in Imam Khomeini Hospital (RA) in Esfarayen, and due to the limited number of the statistical population, the entire census method was used to determine the sample size (107 nurses). Patient safety SAQ was a standard hospital monitoring questionnaire regarding HSOPSC patient safety culture, whose reliability was obtained using Cronbach's alpha of 188, 175, and 82, respectively. The data were analyzed using Pearson's correlation coefficient and SPSS statistical software.

**Results:** The research findings show that there is a positive and significant relationship between moral intelligence and patient safety culture ( $p = 0.001$ ;  $r = 0.348$ ) between moral intelligence and attitude Patient safety ( $r = 0.76$ ;  $p = 0.001$ ) and between patient safety culture and patient safety attitude ( $r = 0.40$ ;  $p = 0.001$ ) were analyzed.

**Conclusion and Discussion:** According to the significant relationship between research variables, the results of this study showed that the higher the moral intelligence of nurses, the higher the attitude towards patient safety and, accordingly, the patient safety culture. Therefore, by increasing moral intelligence through holding educational workshops, nurses' attitudes towards patient safety can be strengthened, and the necessary ground for improving patient safety and ultimately improving the quality of nursing care can be provided.

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