

Title: Survey on perceptions of home care physicians and nurses regarding home medical care

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Abstract:

BackgroundThe Japanese government promotes a community-based integrated care system.**Methods**An online survey of 120 physicians and 118 nurses examined "areas perceived as overloaded with tasks," "quality of life (QoL) evaluation of patients," and "their expectations of pharmacists." Data was analyzed using the Mann-Whitney U test and the Customer Satisfaction (CS) Analysis on "stress" factors.**Results**Physicians indicated that they had significantly higher stress during "night-time/holidays and weekends" than nurses ($p < 0.05$). Nurses experienced significantly more stress during "inter-professional collaboration" than physicians ($p < 0.01$). CS analysis revealed that nurses experienced stress for items such as "having patients with dementia self-inject correctly," and most physicians indicated that these situations would be improved by a pharmacist's intervention. Both physicians and nurses evaluated QoL items highly. A majority of physicians and nurses held "high expectations of pharmacists." Nurses had significantly high expectations of pharmacists for "management of supplements taken by patients" ($p < 0.01$), "explaining drug effects" ($p < 0.001$), and "explaining the necessity of prescription revision" ($p < 0.01$).**Conclusion**Pharmacists should utilize information on physicians and nurses' stress factors, including their expectations of pharmacists, to facilitate better coordination between professions and contribute to patient care. In particular, pharmacist support for nurses needs to be enhanced.