

THE ROLE OF HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT IN ICU

JOAO BASTOS DA FONSECA, PAULO SANTANA

BACN

British Association
of Critical Care Nurses

17th & 18th September 2018
Bournemouth

INTRODUCTION

Since the foundation of the NHS, healthcare assistants (HCA) have played a vital role working alongside registered nurses in the frontline, delivering direct care to patients and their families. HCA's have been working in intensive care settings with different roles and different levels of autonomy, very much dependant on each Hospital policy. The aim of this work is to determine the current role of the healthcare assistant in the ICU and future directions for skills and career development.

METHODS

A literature review was conducted using multiple electronic databases, and focused on publications produced between 2000 and 2018. The keywords used were: "The role of the healthcare assistant in ICU"; "Nursing assistant in ICU"; "Healthcare assistant in critical care"; "Healthcare assistant in acute care".

RESULTS

A total of 7 publications were selected initially. After further analysis 3 publications were selected, based on their relevance in relation to the objectives established.

There is a wide range of activities performed by healthcare assistants in the critical area. They can be performed independently or assisting a registered nurse.

HCA ROLE



DISCUSSION



CONCLUSION

Further research is needed to understand the job role of the HCA in ICU, in particular what tasks should they be performing independently.

