ABSTRACT

Background: Nurse is one of the health care team members involved in providing health care service to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The role of a nurse includes to facilitate, direct patient coping, and provide support for PLWHA. The goal of the health service provision is to facilitate PLWHA in their adaptation to the illness and environmental condition. Nurse experience in caring for PLWHA is beneficial to improve the quality of care services for PLWHA. This study aimed to explore the nurse experience in caring for PLWHA at community health center.

Subjects and Method: This was a qualitative study with phenomenology approach. This study was conducted at Halmahera Community Health Center, Semarang, Central Java. A sample of four key informants and three triangulation informants, was selected for this study. The key informants included nurses involved in the health care service provision for PLWHA at the community health center. The data were collected by semi-structured interview and analyzed by content analysis method.

Results: This study identified three themes of nurse experience in providing health care services to PLWHA: (1) Knowledge and competence of the nurse; (2) Role of nurse; (3) Nurse difficulty.

Conclusion: The optimal role of nurse at the community health center calls for enhanced knowledge and competence in providing health care service to PLWHA.

Keywords: experience, health care service, people living with HIV/AIDS, role of nurse

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