

Amany Farag PhD, RN Associate professor College of Nursing

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About 37.9% of the working population in the United States suffer from occupational fatigue.¹

Occupational fatigue is a multi-causal and multidimensional phenomenon











Design

• Multi-phased mixed method design.

Setting

 All in-patient units within a convenience sample of 8 hospitals across one Midwestern state.



Measurements

Demographics and personal factors	Investigator developed questions	Age, gender, employment status, years of experience, working hours/week, shift work, marital status, secondary job, No. of children, one-way commute time, exercise, caffeine consumption, and perceived social support.
Work environment	The Practice Environment Scale (PES) Lake (2002) and Aiken (2002)*.	Three subscales of leadership support (5 items), collegial nurse-physician relationship (3 items), and Staffing and resource adequacy *(4 items) were used. Nurses completed each item using 4-point Likert scale ranging from



Measurements

Sleep Quality	Pittsburg Sleep Quality Index (PSQI) Buysse, Reynolds, Monk, Berman & Kupfer (1989)	PSQI consists of 19 items covering 7 subscales of: sleep duration, disturbance, latency, efficiency, day dysfunction, need for medication, and overall sleep quality. subscales score range from 0-21; a lower score indicates better sleep quality, cut off point is 5.
Day time sleepiness	Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) Johns (1991)	Nurses used 4-point Likert scale ranging from (0) would never doze to (3) high chance of dozing, to indicate the chances of dozing while engaged in 8 different daily situations. Score ranges from 0-24, lower score is better, cut off point is 8.



Measurement

Fatigue	
Physical	



Measurement

Medication error and near miss	Investigator developed questions.	Nurses used two dichotomous questions (Yes-No) and cannot remember to indicate if the anot to indicate ts qedication 5 (e) 2.9





Phase one (Survey)

- The PI attended all the staff meetings, introduced the study, and distributed the study package in the nurses' mailboxes.
- The study package contained invitation to the second and third phases of the study.
- Weekly reminder flyers and a last call flyer were distributed over 3 weeks period.
- Each participant received a \$20 compensation after receiving the completed survey.
- A total of 1137 completed the study surveys and mailed it back.



Phase two (text messaging- EMA) Initiation of texting activities.

- Participants who agreed to participate in the second phase were called and entered into specifically designed texting platform.
- To account for possible schedule change, the first text was intended to verify if the participant is still working as scheduled or not.
- Each participant received \$ 90 for participating for 14 days and \$10 bonus for complete texting (at least 75%)
- A total of 1031 consented to the second phase, however, only 675 were successfully enrolled.



Phase 3 (Qualitative interview)

- Nurses fatigue scores and their medication error responses were used to classify nurses into 4 groups of High fatigue/ had error; high fatigue/ no error; low fatigue/ had error; low fatigue/ no errors
- A random sample of nurses (30 from each group)were invited to a 20-30 min qualitative interview about fatigue recovery measures used during work and off-work days.
- Participants' compensation (\$40).
- A total of 120 invitation were mailed to nurses; 42 responded and completed the interview.

Age	35.1	1(m (Ag)38(

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Marital status (n=1137): Married Single	599 321	52.6 28.2
Education (n=1137): Associate BSN	329 721	28.9 63.3
Type of Unit (n=1133): Medical/Surgical Critical care Pediatrics Mother baby Specialty units	259 293 206 123 129	22.7 25.7 18.1 10.9 11.4
Employment status (n=1131): Full time	799	70.1
Living with children (n=1137): No	665	58.4
Age of youngest child (n=472): Toddler 1-3y	132	27.9
Secondary Job (n=1133): No	984	86.4

*only high percent are reported





Cluster 1 (n=9)



Cluster 4 (n=204)



Cluster 2 (n=23)



Cluster 5 (n=92)



Cluster 3 (n=14)



Cluster 6 (n=323)















Fatigue is a multicausal multidimensional phenomenon.

- Sleep quality, exercise, caffeine consumption before work, staffing and resource adequacy were among the strongest predicators of various fatigue types.
- Nurses are more mentally than physically fatigued.
- Surprisingly, day shift nurses were more fatigues than nightshift nurses, however, night shift delayed nurse recovery.
- Caregiving responsibilities and second job were not associated with fatigue.
- Nurse fatigue was associated with medication error and near

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