



Patient Safety Policies and Practices among Selected Middle East Countries: Are We Walking on the Right Path? By Madani (2023)

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Received 03 June 2023;

Accepted 27 June 2023;

Published 05 July 2023

Abstract

Human errors have always been a primary topic of discussion in complex systems, especially in the healthcare industry due to the adverse ramifications not only on the patient but also on the involved healthcare practitioner through cultural blame. Concisely, medical errors have adverse effects on patient safety policy and treatment quality, and it also exacerbates financial hardship. As a result, individuals continue to be wounded and receive substandard care. However, this situation is entirely avoidable if healthcare organizations have access to and are aware of accurate healthcare data. Therefore, this backdrop predicates the need for the promulgation of public safety policies and practices, primarily in Middle East Countries where human error has been prevalent.

Keywords: Patient safety, hazards, Middle East, World Health Organization, patient safety pledge.

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in response to an article that was authored by Badr Madani (2023) titled "Patient Safety Policies and Practices among Selected Middle East Countries: Are We Walking on the Right Path?" The article brings to attention the need to promulgate patient safety policies among the Middle East Countries amid concerns of increasing avoidable human errors in healthcare. This article is a review that was written after analyzing 15 other publications published in peer-reviewed journals from around the globe. Additionally, the article includes several studies focusing on the culture of patient safety. A thorough analysis has been conducted, taking into account the measures that Middle Eastern nations have taken to enhance patient safety policies. Research conducted in each of these countries lays the groundwork for an evidence-based understanding of the patient safety culture. To improve the quality of healthcare in the Middle East, there is a compelling need to promote a patient safety culture. This comprises a multi-stakeholder approach from various healthcare organizations, healthcare professionals, and participants in medical education.

Whereas the concept of human errors in the article, it is crucial to address it since it is a primordial determinant of patient safety. As a result of errors that occur in the healthcare industry, patients experience negative health ramifications. Errors in the medical field can place patients' lives in peril and cause them transient or permanent harm. Patient injury is a significant strain on healthcare resources and a further burden on the harmed patients and their families. During unfavorable circumstances, it is of the utmost importance to have more available resources and to improve patient care ^[1] Slawomirski et al. (2017) ^[2] Executive (2018). Therefore, it is essential to take the necessary precautions to avoid making these errors by promulgating patient safety policies.

Materials and Methods

This review was developed by studying 15 other papers that were published in journals that were assessed by peers all across the globe. Several databases, including PubMed, Scopus, Springer, Study Gate, and Embase, are accessed throughout the literature review. In addition, the article includes several studies that focus on patient safety culture. Whereas review-based research is insightful in sufficing extant findings on the subject of patient safety, it fails to suffice any new findings, whether confirming or contradicting the existing findings.

Results and Discussion

As articulated in this article, patient safety is one of the fundamental concerns that bother the current healthcare system marred with proliferating medical errors. Different healthcare organizations and institutions are devoting a great deal of attention and effort to enhancing the ethos of patient safety. To implement a successful transformation in the healthcare industry, it is crucial to comprehend and adhere to the safety culture standards and laws.

The researcher employs a wealth of empirical evidence to justify the need to promulgate patient safety in Middle East countries owing to high prevalence of medical errors that have promulgate negative ramifications. For instance, according to the results of a study conducted in nineteen different Palestinian hospitals, one in every seven traumatized patients was the result of a medical error. The purpose of this article was to evaluate the efficacy of the various Middle Eastern patient safety measures based on research supported by evidence ^[3] Murray & Lopez (2017). The article emphasizes the numerous patient safety procedures used in the Middle East. It

asserts the need to promulgate patient safety policies and practices due to the lackluster extant patient care system in mitigating human errors.

Additionally, the article also focuses on the role of Electronic Medical Records (EMR) in promulgating patient safety and quality of care. EMR is believed to be the foundation that enables the incorporation of numerous technologies, such as telemedicine, electronic prescriptions, digital images, test administration, and decision support systems, which all improve clinical decisions based on evidence^[4] Househ et al. (2017);^[5] Dash et al. (2019). These evidence-based clinical applications and particularly EMR enable a healthcare system that is both technologically savvy, efficient, promulgate patient safety and reduce human errors in the healthcare industry^[6] Kim et al. (2019).

Conclusions

This article brings to attention the need to promulgate patient safety policies among the Middle East Countries amid concerns of increasing avoidable human errors in healthcare. To achieve the objective of providing patients in the Middle East with higher-quality medical care, it is necessary to implement strategies that emphasize the significance of a culture of patient safety. This entails adopting rules and procedures by various healthcare organizations, healthcare professionals, and medical education participants.

Funding Statement

This work was self-funded by the author(s) with no external funding or financial support

Authors' contributions

Alharbi, Mohammed conceptualized and wrote the editorial letter

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