

and social welfare agencies.

The role of medical welfare in determining the actual nutritional state of the aged in urban areas is important, and offering information about social resources for meal service is necessary.

A Study on the Evaluation Structure of Quality of Life

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The Basic QOL Scale (BAQL) created by the author and WHO/QOL26 were used to examine the evaluation structure of QOL from the common feature of both scales by analyzing the factor structure and the relation of both scales in a healthy adult. The mean value of both scales showed a correlation ($p < 0.01$) and it became clear that scores of both scales were of almost equal quality. It appeared suggested that the point of QOL scores go up with age, because the score of the teaching staff was more highly significant ($p < 0.01$) than those of the students. Also, the factor structure showed a small difference between the two groups, and it was thought that this confirms the existence of the time axis in the concept and evaluation of QOL. The factor structure was composed of the contents that were similar in both scales, and each factor was confirmed that it is high mutual relevancy (r-coefficient, $p < 0.01$). This is especially true of the structure of the principles for evaluating BAQL. This suggested that QOL evaluation have a layered structure, because the factor relation showed a difference by distance. To the QOL score the internal factor was shown that it is influencing more strongly than an external factor. This result suggested that an internal factor becomes the direct factor of QOL and an external factor becomes the influence factor to an internal factor. It was conceivable that the evaluation item regarding an external factor need to pay attention sufficient so as not to be made with the identity spread on the side of the setting person.

A Study on How Home-helpers Write their Case-records

Masahiro YOKOYAMA

The purpose of this paper was to investigate the attitudes of home-helpers towards keeping care records and to develop better recording techniques.

First, home-helpers thought that better recording techniques were concise, easy to understand and focused. Second, they thought case records were important methods to maintain communication with other home-helpers. Third, home-helpers didn't write case records becoming of care process. Fourth, home-helpers were very interested in learning about writing case records and needed training programs to teach them how to write the records in a clean and concise way. Finally, when they wrote their case-records they were influenced by their emotions. They must, there, be taught the importance of keeping objectivity in social work.

Thoughts of Elderly Parents of Adult Children with Severe Developmental Disabilities

Mari MOCHIZUKI and Yasuko AKIYAMA

This study examined the life style and states of mind of parents who are taking care of their adult children with severe developmental disabilities.

Subjects were 21 families. The mean age of the children was 34.1 years, and the mean age of the

fathers and mothers was 65.3 and 63.0, respectively. The mean length of time receiving regular outpatient treatment was 29.7 years. Dr. Akiyama interviewed parents with a long lasting doctor-patient relationship and Mochizuki classified the data.

Parents had a good understanding of their children's conditions and knowledge, of how to deal with them. Parents perceived their family members, doctors and welfare workers as important support resources. Therefore, most of them reported comparatively subjective burdens, but two of them felt mental and physical burdens because of the death of a spouse and a spouse with Alzheimer's disease.

They appeared not to appraise their current situations as unusually stressful, but older parents worried about the future care of their children after their own death. Younger ones have no concrete plans for their children's future.

Parents recognize their children as their loved ones, and they want to keep them at home as long as they can take care of them. It has been recognized that medical welfare support and institutions with accommodation facilities for disabled adults cared for at home are important for the parents' peace of mind.

The Present State and Problems of Educating People about Death

Keiko SEKIDO

The present state of educating people about death in Japan was investigated. Initial efforts to educate people about death were begun in the latter half of the nineteen-eighties. Thereafter, this effort to help people be better informed about death has gradually increased. At present, efforts are being made to determine the best ways to promote this education.

Inviting the public to lectures at universities is one of the common ways to keep the public informed. However, lectures on death comprised less than 1 % of these presentations. In order to enlarge the number of people knowledgeable about death, it is necessary that the number of presentations be increased and programs at other facilities, such as community centers, added. However, just increasing the number of presentations is not the only solution.

Thought must be given to new ways to inform in better and more interesting ways.

Introducing Two Experiments on Oral Feeding in Fundamental Nursing Practice : How Swallowing is Affected by Body Position and Food Texture

Keiko SEKIDO and Kiyoko FUKAI

Assisting patients with eating is one of the educational units in fundamental nursing. As a portion of this content, the authors adopted two experiments on oral feeding. One was to study the relationship between body position and swallowing, and the other was the relationship between food texture and swallowing. The purpose of introducing these experiments in nursing education was to help nursing students understand the importance of oral feeding. This form of teaching was developed at this university. In the first phase, students determined that ease of swallowing changes with body position. Then the students experienced the difference among various foods from solids to liquids.

When the students had completed these experiments, they became interested in oral feeding as well as swallowing difficulties.