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# A retrospective study of patients' recall of respirator treatment (1): Study design and basic findings

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## Abstract

A retrospective interview-based study of patients' recall of respirator treatment in the ICU has been carried out. Of 924 respirator treated patients (females/males= 1/2) 304 patients could be reached after the ICU treatment period and interviewed on their experiences during the treatment. The respirator treatment was recalled by 52% of these patients. The ability to recall the treatment was not affected by elapsed time between the treatment and the interview (range 2 months to 4 years). More of the patients respirator treated for > 5 days recalled the treatment than those treated < 5 days. Elderly patients, especially females seemed to have a reduced ability to recall the respirator treatment. It is concluded that a detailed assessment of relationships between nursing care factors and emotional experiences during respirator treatment is made possible by the use of such an interview-based retrospective study.



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