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Field survey of the careers of visiting nurses, Report No. 2: Analysis of training needs

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Objective: To identify the perceptions of and the training needs for visiting nurses' careers and to use this information as a foundation for developing a training program for visiting nurses who work at visiting nurse stations.

Methods: Visiting nurses employed at 309 visiting nurse stations affiliated with the Association of Visiting Nurse Stations completed a self-administered questionnaire between February and April 2022. We asked respondents to answer questions about their participation situation in training sessions, the training sessions they participated in, the training sessions they would like to participate in and their fields of expertise. The descriptive statistics were then analyzed, followed by a qualitative analysis of the openended responses. This study was conducted after receiving approval from the research ethics committee (20085).

Results: A total of 1,545 questionnaire forms were sent via mail, and 334 individuals returned completed questionnaires (response rate: 19.6%). More than 80% participated in training sessions on visiting nursing. When asked what type of training they had received in the past, 156 individuals (47.3%) stated "training related to basic visiting nursing knowledge," 131 (39.7%) stated "terminal care," and 105 (31.8%) stated "training related to skin diseases." In terms of the types of training they would like to receive in the future, in descending order, 144 individuals (45.0%) stated "terminal care," 135 (42.8%) stated "training related to skin diseases," and 117 (36.6%) stated "physical assessments."

Conclusion: We found that there is a great need for training in the areas of terminal care and skin diseases. This suggests that the reduction of hospital stays and the promotion of comprehensive community care systems have led to an increase in the number of patients requiring end-of-life care at home as well as a great need for nursing for recuperating skin disease patients who have returned to their normal daily lives.