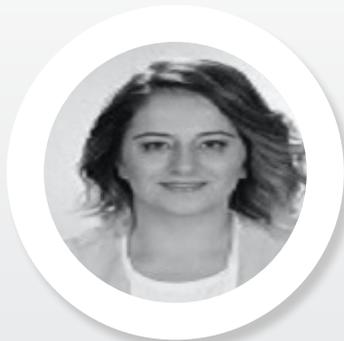


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**The evaluation of collaborations with families in meeting the care needs of people with intellectual disability according to the nursing model based on living activities**

**Selda Mert Boga**  
Kocaeli University, Turkey

Co-Author  
**Nedime Kosgeroglu**  
Eskisehir Osmangazi University, Turkey

**Aim:** Using the nursing model based on living activities (NMBLA), this study aims to detect problems encountered by families who provide care for persons with intellectual disabilities (PIDs), and to plan, apply, and evaluate the nursing initiatives aimed at resolving those problems.

**Method:** This descriptive, interventional study is a regional field study that included 100 PID families, who agreed to home visits from September 2008 to December 2008. Data collection took place in three stages. In the first stage (October–December 2008), home visits to the participating families were carried out. Questionnaire forms were used that had been developed in accordance with the relevant literature to determine the sociodemographic characteristics of the PIDs and their families, the knowledge level and treatments concerned with disability, care needs, and anxiety levels of the relatives of the disabled individuals. In the second stage (January–March 2009), the suitable nursing initiatives for the problems of the PIDs and their families were planned, and the relatives of disabled individuals were referred to the relevant institution and organizations. The third stage (April–June 2009), evaluated whether the problems of the families to whom the care needs-oriented nursing initiatives were applied had been resolved. In data analysis, the Wilcoxon signed-rank test was used to compare the scores.

**Results:** Among the PIDs, 56% were male; 40% were in the 21–30 age group; 45.5% had an intelligence quotient in the range 26–50; 73% were living with their mothers and fathers; 67% did not receive any formal or special education; 66% had other accompanying disabilities; and 70% had chronic diseases accompanying their intellectual disability. Among the relatives of the disabled individuals, 68% were mothers; 73% were homemakers; and 60% were primary school graduates. There was a statistically significant difference between the initial mean total care needs score received from the NMBLA prior to the nursing initiatives ( $1.69 \pm 0.21$ ) and the mean total care need score received after the nursing initiatives ( $1.50 \pm 0.24$ ) ( $p < 0.05$ ). Thus, the nursing initiatives within the activities of daily life of the PIDs and their families were effective: the mean trait anxiety scores of the relatives of the disabled individuals prior to the nursing initiatives were  $52.00 \pm 8.24$ , whereas it was  $49 \pm 7.69$  after the nursing initiatives; the difference between the two scores was statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ). Of note, the anxiety levels of the relatives of the disabled individuals decreased after the nursing initiatives ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** In line with the NMBLA to meet the care needs of PIDs and their families, collaborations with the families and the relevant institutions had a positive effect on the problem resolution. It is recommended that the number of the social projects for the needs of the PIDs and their families be increased, and that nurses participate in and have active roles in the projects.

**Notes:****Biography**

Selda Mert Boga is an Instructor at Kocaeli University. She has interest in issues like surgical diseases nursing, nursing care, evidence-based nursing practices, patient or employee health and safety. She received her PhD in the Department of Surgical Nursing at Istanbul University in 2016. She is a member of Turkish Society of Surgical and Operating Room Nurses. Her research is focused on surgical diseases nursing, nursing care, evidence-based nursing practices. She has published more than 10 papers in important journals. She has been working as an educator for 11 years.

seldamertboga@gmail.com