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## A study to assess the knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhoea among staff nurses and nursing students in Narayana Medical College Hospital, Nellore

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Diarrhea is not a condition, it's a symptom of another health issues, such as an infection or virus. It can also occur reaction of food medication parasites or bacteria in food. Cure of diarrhea may three types, firstly drink water and other fluids that help to restore essential vitamins and minerals lost through diarrhea and secondly its can control through the hygienic diet. According to UNICEF (2014) about 1.7 to 5 billion people are affected with diarrhoea and it occurs most common in developing country where young children are mostly common in developing country and mostly reported about 11% or 1.7 billion of people are affected with diarrhea.

**Methods:** A Non-Experimental descriptive research was adopted for this study. The study was conducted in selected hospital, Nellore district. 30 samples were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique. Structured questionnaire were used to assess the knowledge regarding bowel wash among staff Nurses and Nursing students

**Results:** The study results shows that with regard to knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhoea among staff nurses, 7(46.7%) had inadequate knowledge, 6(40%) had moderately adequate knowledge, 2(13.2%) had adequate knowledge, whereas in nursing students, 2(13.3%) had inadequate knowledge, 7(46.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge, 6(40%) had adequate knowledge.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that majority of staff nurses had inadequate knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhea whereas majority of the nursing students had moderately adequate knowledge regarding. So there is a need to improve knowledge by the staff nurses and as well as student nurses.

**Keywords:** knowledge, diarrhoea, nursing students, staff nurses

### 1. Introduction

Diarrhea is not a condition, it's a symptom of another health issues, such as an infection or virus. Its can also occur reaction of food medication parasites or bacteria in food. Cure of diarrhea may three types firstly drink water and other fluids that help to restore essential vitamins and minerals lost through diarrhea and secondly its can control through the hygienic diet and as well as like bananas, rice, apple and toast used for mainly children who are suffering with diarrhoea.

There is an introduction of diarrheal disease control programe on basis of make introduction of oral rehydration, by has greatly simplified the treatment of diarrheal disease. The aim of oral fluid therapy is to prevent dehydration and reduce mortality. It has been the experience of workers at Kolkata that as many as 90 to 95% of all care of diarrhea has been treated by oral fluid. Oral fluid therapy based observation that glucose given orally enhances the intestinal absorption of salt and water and is capable of correcting the electrolyte and water deficit.

According to UNICEF (2014) about 1.7 to 5 billion people are affected with diarrhoea and it occurs most common in developing country where young children are mostly common in developing country and mostly reported about 11% or 1.7 billion of people are affected with diarrhoea

**2. Objectives**

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding care of patients with diarrhoea among staff nurses.
- To assess the level of knowledge regarding care of patients with diarrhoea among nursing students.
- To compare the level of knowledge regarding care of patients with diarrhoea between staff nurses and nursing students.
- To find out the association between the levels of knowledge regarding care of patients with diarrhoea among staff nurses, nursing students with their selected socio demographic variables.

**3. Materials and Methods:** A Non-Experimental descriptive research was adopted for this study. The study was conducted in selected hospital, Nellore district. 30 samples were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique. Structured questionnaire were used to assess the knowledge regarding bowel wash among staff Nurses and Nursing students

**3.1 Sample Size:** 30 samples were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique. Among them 15 were staff nurses and 15 were student nurses. Data were obtained by the following methods:

- A) Through questionnaire method by interviewing the samples for assessing their sociodemographic variables
- B) Self-administered questionnaire were used to assess the knowledge regarding care of patients with diarrhoea

**3.2 Ethical Clearance:** There was no drug administration or invasive procedure involved in the study. A written Permission was obtained from the institutional authority and ethical committee. Written informed consent was obtained from samples who participated in the study and Confidentiality and anonymity of the subjects was maintained throughout the study (harika, 2015).

**4. Results**

**Table 1:** Distribution of Demographic Variables of staff nurses (N=15)

S.no	Demographic Variables	Staff nurses(n-15)	
		f	%
1	<b>Age</b>		
	22-23 years	6	40
	24-26 years	9	60
2	<b>Gender</b>		
	Female	12	80
	Male	3	20
3	<b>Educational qualification</b>		
	GNM	6	40
	B.SC(N)	8	53.3
	PBBSC	1	6.7
4	<b>Professional experience</b>		
	Below 1 year	4	26.7
	1-3 years	6	40
	4-5 years	4	26.7
	>5 years	1	6.7
5	<b>Source of information</b>		
	Net and journal	6	40
	Community participation	2	13.3
	Curriculum	2	13.3
	Class teaching	1	6.7
	All the above	4	26.7
6	<b>CNE programme related to bowel wash</b>		
	Attended	9	60
	Not attended	6	40

**Table 2:** Distribution of Demographic Variables of student nurses (N=15)

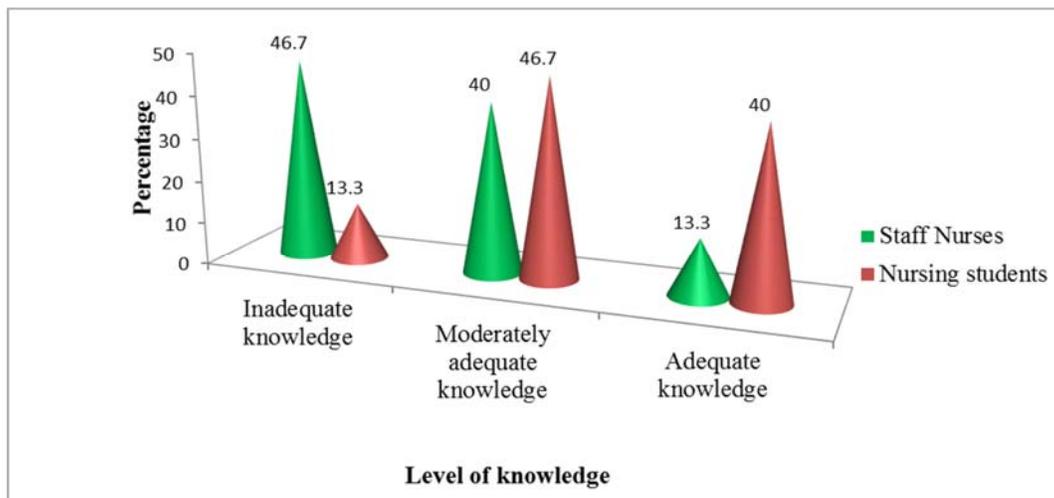
S.no	Demographic Variables	Student nurses(n-15)	
		f	%
1	<b>Age</b>		
	18-19 years	9	60
	22-23 years	6	40
2	<b>CNE programme related to bowel wash</b>		
	Attended	3	20
	Not attended	12	80
3	<b>Educational qualification</b>		
	BSC(N)	15	100
4	<b>Year of course</b>		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	8	53.3
	4 <sup>th</sup> year	7	46.7

**Table 3:** Comparison of level of knowledge on care of patients with diarrhoea between staff nurses and nursing students

S. No	Level Of Knowledge	Staff Nurses (N=15)		Nursing Students (N=15)	
		f	%	f	%
1	Inadequate knowledge below (50%)	7	46.7	2	13.3
2.	Moderately Adequate knowledge (50%-70%)	6	40	7	46.7
3.	Adequate knowledge (more than 70%)	2	13.3	6	40

Table no.3 Shows that comparison of level of knowledge on care of patient with diarrhoea between staff nurses and nursing students (30 samples), among staff nurses, 7(46.7%) had inadequate knowledge, 6(40%) had moderately adequate

knowledge, 2(13.2%) had adequate knowledge, whereas in nursing students, 2(13.3%) had inadequate knowledge, 7(46.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge, 6(40%) had adequate knowledge.



**Fig 1:** Percentage distribution of staff nurses and nursing students based on level of knowledge

**Table 4:** Comparison of mean knowledge score and standard deviation among staff nurses and nursing students. (N=30)

Sample Categories	Mean	Standard Deviation
Staff Nurses	23.7	3.8
Nursing Students	18.2	2.7

Table.no-4 Shows that with regards to comparison of level of knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhoea between staff nurses and student nurses. In staff nurses, the mean value is 23.7 with standard deviation of 3.8 and nursing students the mean value is 18.2 with standard deviation of 2.7.

**4. Discussion**

The aim of the present study was to assess the knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhea among staff nurses and nursing students

**4.1 Findings of the Study Based On Objectives**

**4.1.1 Findings related to comparison of the level of knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhea between staff nurses and nursing students.**

Table no.3 Shows that comparison of level of knowledge on care of patient with diarrhoea between staff nurses and nursing students (30 samples), among staff nurses, 7(46.7%) had inadequate knowledge, 6(40%) had moderately adequate knowledge, 2(13.2%) had adequate knowledge, whereas in nursing students, 2(13.3%) had inadequate knowledge, 7(46.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge, 6(40%) had adequate knowledge.

W.W Ling and Wong (2010) conducted a study on improvement in documentation for care of patient with diarrhea at 9 selected wards in sibu hospitals. Data collection was divided into 3 phases. A pre implementation audit using a

checklist was carried out. The compliance rate of completeness of documentation of care of patient with diarrhea was being done in the selected 9 wards. Post implementation audit showed a significant improvement of compliance rate (88%) feedback from health care workers (N=110) should that 89% of doctors (N=17) and 60% of nurses (N=93) in the sample prefer to use the new format as more practical and relevant to the changing shift of nurses and doctors ward rounds.

Rakesh Kumarn Rishi (2013) Conducted to assess the knowledge regarding preparing oral rehydration solution and homemade sugar salt solution among people in Srinagar in uttanchal,225 people were interviewed only a few portion recognized ORS packets. Homemade sugar salt solution was adequate discussed by only 6.22% of parents and there were taught correctly prepared and need of salt sugar solution which reduced dehydration lead to diarrhoea.

**4.1.2 Findings related to Association between the level of knowledge of staff nurses regarding care of patient with diarrhoea with their selected socio demographic variables.**

There is no significant association between the demographic variables such as age, gender, educational qualification, total professional experience, attended any CNE/Workshop with level of knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhoea.

**4.1.3 Findings related to Association between the level of knowledge of nursing students regarding care of patient with diarrhoea with their selected socio demographic variables.**

There is no significant association between the demographic variables such as age (harika, 2015), attended any Workshop, educational qualification, year of course with level of knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhoea.

## 5. Conclusion

The study concluded that majority of staff nurses had inadequate knowledge regarding care of patient with diarrhea whereas majority of the nursing students had moderately adequate knowledge regarding. So there is a need to improve knowledge by the staff nurses and as well as student nurses.

## 6. Recommendations

On the basis of the findings of the study, recommendations are:

- ✓ A similar study can be replicated on a large sample to generalize the findings.
- ✓ An experimental study can be conducted to assess the effectiveness of teaching programme on care of patient with diarrhoea.
- ✓ Similar study can be done on different hospital settings.
- ✓ A comparative study can be undertaken to compare the knowledge of staff nurses and nursing students with care of patient with diarrhoea.

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