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To assess knowledge regarding advanced patient care among staff nurses

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Abstract

Background: The nurse plays a key role in the equation and solving the problems presented by patients / clients. Acting as mediator between client, multidisciplinary team, family and community, the nurse and the nursing staff assist in problem solving and coping with health problems diagnosed by them. The nursing profession requires increasing competence of its practitioners at all levels because nursing practice at an advanced level for the pursuit of health care is expected throughout society as the nursing profession has been touted as a way of improving quality of health care.

Material and Methods: Descriptive study design was used with descriptive survey research approach. Study sample was 50 staff nurses working at Krishna Hospital and Medical research centre, Karad. Purposive sampling technique was used to select study sample. Structured self administered questionnaire and structured observational checklist was used to collect data. Tool includes three sections, namely- demographic profile, knowledge questionnaire and observational checklist. Data were collected and were analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics using licensed copy of instat software.

Result: The results revealed that majority 58 % of subjects were having average knowledge, 24% having good knowledge and 18% were having poor knowledge. The association between level of knowledge with socio demographic variables were identified by using one way ANOVA and unpaired t test.

Conclusion: Nursing roles may be enhanced through progressive broadening of the scope of the patient care role, fostering the nurse quality controller and educator role, and addressing barriers to role enhancement, such as organisational inexperience with interprofessional work and lack of a career structure.

Keywords: Knowledge, Practice, Advanced Patient Care, Staff Nurses.

Introduction

Nurses nearly always have the closest relationship with patients. They are the front-line providers who monitor and meet patient needs; they are the information conduit from patient to physician; and they are the dogged patient advocate who lobbies for both patient and family. Nurses' contributions to care coordination have long been a core professional standard and competency for nurses. It is what nurses do and have always done. Whether developing care plans guided by patients' needs and preferences, educating patients and their families at discharge, doing their best to facilitate continuity of care for patients, nurses need know what proven techniques and interventions they can use to enhance patient outcomes. The nurse is expected to be able to perform advanced health assessments and in possession of decision-making and diagnostic reasoning skill and possesses advanced clinical skills. The nurses apply the knowledge and skills appropriate to their level of responsibility. The nurse plays a key role in the equation and solving the problems presented by patients / clients. Acting as mediator between client, multidisciplinary team, family and community, the nurse and the nursing staff assist in problem solving and coping with health problems diagnosed by them ^[1].

The nursing profession requires increasing competence of its practitioners at all levels because nursing practice at an advanced level for the pursuit of health care is expected throughout society as the nursing profession has been touted as a way of improving quality of health care ^[4].

Despite the largely positive rhetoric about nurses in the medical and mainstream media, there has been little detailed research on their roles or the ways in which they may be changing the general practice workplace. The roles of nurses regarding advanced patient care must be emphasized and assessed among nurses [2].

In health, there is a growing concern of many professionals in improving technical and scientific knowledge, thereby stimulating development and increasing their responsibilities, so that the level of assistance provided to the client, family and community is qualified. For rendering appropriate and effective services to sick individuals is the most cherished and essential function of society which nurses has taken up since inception of the society. Although it has taken the shape of profession much later [1].

Title of the study

“A Study to Assess Knowledge Regarding Advanced Patient Care among Staff Nurses Working in a Tertiary Care Hospital”

Objectives of the study

- To assess the knowledge on advanced patient care among staff nurses working in a tertiary care hospital.
- To find out the association between knowledge on advanced patient care with selected socio demographic variables among staff nurses working in a tertiary care hospital.

Hypotheses

1. H₀ : There will not be significant association between knowledge on advanced patient care with selected socio demographic variables among staff nurses
2. H₁ : There will be significant association between knowledge on advanced patient care with selected socio demographic variables among staff nurses

Material and Methods

For present study non- experimental descriptive design was used with purpose to determine the knowledge on advanced patient care among staff nurses with the help of structured questionnaire. Samples comprised of 50 registered nurses working in the Krishna Hospital and Medical Research Centre, Karad were selected by purposive sampling technique. Structured Self Administered Questionnaire were used to assess the knowledge. It consist of two sections. Section -1 consists of 5 items describing the socio-demographic variables of staff nurses such as age, professional qualification, present area of working, years of experience in nursing, and participation in any continuing nursing education programme.and section -2 is divided into 6 sub- sections and each sections consists of 5 multiple choice questions and the total number of questions under this section is 30 multiple choice questions to assess the level of knowledge of staff nurses regarding advanced patient care. The formal permission was obtained from the concerned authority of hospital and verbal consent was obtained from the samples to conduct study. The data was collected using structured self administered questionnaire. The data obtained is analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Result

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of socio – demographic variables of subjects.

N=50

Sl. No.	Socio demographic variables	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age (Yrs)		
	21-25 yrs	33	66.0
	26-30 yrs	12	24.0
	31-35 yrs	3	6.0
	>35 yrs	2	4.0
2	Educational Qualification		
	GNM	27	54.0%
	Basic B.Sc(N)	20	40.0%
	PB BSc(N)	3	6.0
3	Present area of working		
	General Ward	12	24.0
	Intensive Care Unit	38	76.0
4	Experience (Yrs)		
	0-5 yrs	41	82%
	6-10 yrs	7	14%
	11-15 yrs	0	0%
	>16 yrs	2	4%
5	Participation In Continuing Nursing Education Programme		
	Participated	24	48.0
	Not participated	26	52.0

Table -1 reveals that majority (66%) of subjects were between the age group of 21-25 years, 24% of subjects were between the age group 26-30 years, 6% of subjects were between the age group of 31-35 years and 4% were more than or equal to 35 years of age. majority (54%) of subject were GNM, 40% of subjects were Basic BSc(N) and 6% of subjects were PB BSc(N). majority 82% of subjects were having experience less than or equal to 5 years, 14 % were having experience in between 6-10 years and the rest 4% were having experience more than or equal to 16 years. majority % of the subjects were not participated in continuing nursing education programme and the rest 48% of the subjects have been participated in continuing nursing education programme.

Table 2: Distribution of subjects according to area wise level of knowledge in mean, s.d, and mean %.

n=50

Sl. No.	Knowledge particulars regarding advanced patient care	No. of items	Mean	S.D	Mean %
1	Patient Carer	5	2.5	0.8535	50
2	Nurse Educator	5	2.6	1.28203	52
3	Problem Solver	5	2.5	0.899	50
4	Agent of Connectivity	5	2.7	0.7902	54
5	Quality Controller	5	1.7	1.044	34
6	Organizer	5	3.3	0.86740994	66

Table-2 highlights that 50% subjects had knowledge regarding patient carer, 52% subjects had knowledge regarding role of nurse educator, 50% subjects had knowledge regarding problem solver, 54% subjects had knowledge regarding the role of nurse as an agent of connectivity, and 34% of subjects had knowledge regarding the role of nurse as a quality controller in advanced patient care and out of 50 subjects 66% had knowledge regarding the role of nurse as an organizer

Table 3: distribution of subjects according to the level of knowledge

n=50

SI No	Level of Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1	Good knowledge (18-30)	12	24%
2	Average Knowledge (12-17)	29	58%
3	Poor Knowledge (11)	9	18%

Table – 3 denotes the distribution of level of knowledge of staff nurses regarding advanced patient care. Out of 50 subjects, 58% of them had average knowledge, 24% of subjects had good knowledge and 18% had poor knowledge.

Table 4: Association between socio-demographic variables and Patient Carer

SI No	Variables	Level of Knowledge		Mean	S.D	One way ANOVA	
		Frequency	Percentage			P	F
I	Age (Yrs)					0.2332 NS	1.477
	21-25	33	66%	2.364	0.9293		
	26-30	12	24%	2.5833	0.6686		
	31-35	3	6%	3.3333	0.5774		
	36	2	4%	2	0.000		
II	Education					0.1812 NS	1.772
	GNM	27	54%	2.667	0.8771		
	Basic BSc(N)	20	40%	2.2	0.8335		
	PB BSc(N)	3	6%	2.3	0.5774		
III	Area Of Working					Unpaired t test	
	General Ward	12	24%	2.1667	2.553	0.1790 NS	1.364
	Intensive Care Unit	38	76%	0.7177	0.8913		
IV	Experience(Yrs)					One way ANOVA	
	0-5 yrs	41	82%	2.44	0.8958	0.5577 NS	0.5913
	6-10 yrs	7	14%	2.7143	0.7559		
	11-15 yrs	0	0	0	0		
	16 yrs	2	4%	2	0.000		
V	Participation in CNE					Unpaired t test	
	Yes	24	48%	2.5833	0.8805	0.3363 NS	0.971
	No	26	52%	2.35	0.8458		

The data presented in table 4 represents the association between selected socio demographic variables and level of knowledge of staff nurses regarding Patient Carer in advanced patient care. One way ANOVA was used to find association between knowledge and selected socio demographic variables such as age, education, and experience, and Unpaired t test was used to find the association between knowledge and socio demographic variables like area of working and participation in CNE programme. there was no any association was found between selected socio demographic variables and level of knowledge of staff nurses regarding Patient Carer in advanced patient care.

Discussion

In present study majority (66%) of subjects were between the age group of 21-25 years majority (54%) of subject were GNM, 40% of subjects were Basic BSc(N) and 6% of subjects were PB BSc(N). majority 82% of subjects were having experience less than or equal to 5 years, 14 % were having experience in between 6-10 years and the rest 4% were having experience more than or equal to 16 years. majority % of the subjects were not participated in continuing nursing education programme and the rest 48% of the subjects have been participated in continuing nursing education programme.

Knowledge score mean percentage is 50% with standard deviation 3.423. Out of 50 samples 58% were having average knowledge, 24% having good knowledge and 18% were having poor knowledge. The association between level of knowledge and the selected socio demographic variables was done using one way ANOVA and Unpaired t test and depicted in table 11-16. All the selected socio demographic variables were not statistically significant with knowledge scores.

Similar finding were found in study conducted by Kapurkar K, Jagdale S, and Babar R, result reveals that as per socio demographic majority of staff nurses 31(52.54%) belongs to age group of 21-23 years as in present study majority (66%) of subjects were between the age group of 21-25 years, Maximum staffs 54 (91.52%) job experience was 1-5 year As similarly in present study majority 82% of subjects were having experience less than or equal to 5 years.

Contradictory finding were found i.e majority 33(55.93%) staffs education were B.BSc. as in present study majority (54%) of subject were GNM.

In present study 58% were having average knowledge, 24% having good knowledge and 18% were having poor knowledge similar findings were found in study conducted by Kapurkar K, Jagdale S, and Babar R, result reveals that majority of nursing staff having 30(50.84%) good knowledge and majority of having 29(94.15%) average knowledge In present study there was no significant association found similarly there was no significant association found between knowledge among staff nurses with socio-demographic variable.

Conclusion

The findings of this study can serves as a guideline for the nurses in the way they perform their jobs as nursing care has a real impact on healthcare quality. Clinical quality measures are strongly related to good nursing care. In addition, a caring, knowledgeable and competent nurse can significantly improve the comfort and effectiveness of hospital care.

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