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Assess the level of knowledge regarding importance specialization in nursing among staff nurses in NMCH, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract
The study aims are to assess the Level of Knowledge Regarding Importance of Specialization in Nursing and to identify the relationship between the knowledge level and socio demographic variables of staff nurses. The quantitative research approach and descriptive design was adopted for the study. The study was conducted in Narayana Medical College hospital in Nellore. 30 staff Nurses were selected by using Non Probability Convenience Sampling Technique. Semi Structured Questionnaire method was used for collecting the information from samples. Data analysis done by using descriptive and inferential statistics. The results revealed that 2(6.7%) Staff Nurses had adequate knowledge, 5(16.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 23(76.6%) Staff Nurses had inadequate knowledge regarding preservation of food. The study concluded that majority of staff nurses has inadequate knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing.

Keywords: Knowledge, importance of specialization, staff nurses

Introduction
Specialization is built on the generalist practice foundation of baccalaureate nursing education. A nursing specialist is trained to act as a consultant is clinical practice and an educator to both nurses and the wider multidisciplinary team. These programs further understanding of ethical conduct, spreading of diseases, treating illness, making important decisions and giving care to patients. Specialization Courses aims to enhance a critical understanding of the issues affecting health care and nursing practice is an international context. The influence of the global public health agenda on the role of the nurse is considered in an examination of the complex social and political nature of nursing, health and social care.

Objectives
- To assess the level of knowledge regarding the importance of specialization in nursing among the staff nurses.
- To associate the level of knowledge regarding the importance of specialization in nursing among staff nurses with their selected socio demographic variables.

Materials and Methods
This cross sectional descriptive study was carried out to assess the knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing among staff nurses in Narayana Medical college hospital, Nellore. After obtaining ethical clearance 30 staff nurses were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique. The data collected from sample by using semi Structured Questionnaire method and results were documented. Statistical analysis was performed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Criteria for Sample Selection
Inclusion Criteria
Staff nurses who are
- Present during the study
- Interested to participate in the study

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Exclusion Criteria
Who are not present during the time of data collection
Not willing to participate in the study.

Description of the Tool
The tool was developed with the help of related literature from various text books, journals, website, discussion and guidance from experts.

Part-I: Consists of age, gender, educational qualification, year of experience

Part-II: Consists of semi structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing

Plan for Data Analysis
The data was analyzed in terms of objectives of the study using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Sl. No	Data Analysis	Method	Remarks
1	Descriptive Statistics	Frequency, Percentage distribution, Mean and Standard Deviation *Distribution of socio demographic variables	*Distribution of socio demographic variables * To assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding importance of specialization in nursing
2	Inferential statistics	Chi-Square	* To find out the association between the level of knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing among staff nurses with their selected socio demographic variables.

Results
The data were organized and presented under the following Headings.

Section I
Frequency and percentage distribution of Sociodemographic variables among staff nurses

Section II
Frequency and percentage distribution based on the level of knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing among staff nurses in NMCH, Nellore.

Section III
Mean and standard deviation of level of knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing among staff nurses.
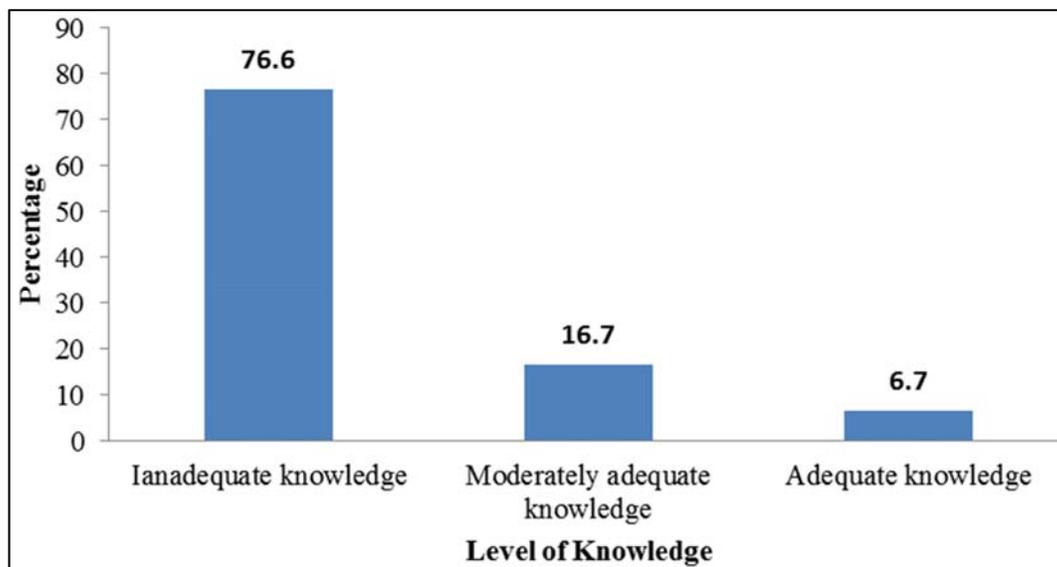
Section IV
Association between the level of knowledge regarding importance of specialization in nursing among staff nurses with their selected socio demographic variables.

Section I: Frequency and percentage distribution of Socio demographic variables among staff nurses
Majority of staff nurses with respect to age 30(100%) are between 23-27 years of age and with regard to gender 1(3.33%) are male, in relation to education qualification 18(60%)are BSC [N], and with context to year of experience 18(60%)were having 3-5 years of experience.

Section II
Frequency and percentage distribution based on the level of knowledge regarding the importance of specialization in nursing among the staff nurses.

Fig 1: Percentage distribution of level of knowledge

Section III
Mean and standard deviation of knowledge scores regarding the importance of specialization in nursing among the staff nurses.

Category	Mean	Standard deviation
Staff nurses	20.66	7.2

Section IV

Association between the level of knowledge regarding the importance of specialization in nursing among the staff nurses. With socio demographic Variables.

The study finding reveals that there is an association between the level of knowledge with socio demographic variables such year of experience obtained calculated value 19.382 table value18.31 at P <0.05 level, and remaining variables has shown non significant association.

Conclusion

The study findings revealed that majority of staff nurses have inadequate knowledge regarding. Importance of specialization in nursing it indicates that there is need to conduct awareness programmes and continuous educational programmes for educating staff nurses regarding importance of specialization in Nursing.

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