

Knowledge and Attitude on Patient Safety among ICU Nurses in Selected Hospital at Chennai

Tamilarasi. B¹, Anbuselvi. S², Jocelyn Jebarathna. J³, Balamurugan. G⁴, Kalaiselvi .S⁵, Kripa Biju⁶, Pavalakodi. E⁷, Pooja. K⁸, Yaqub Ahamed .S .M. B⁹

¹Principal, Madha College of Nursing, Chennai (Affiliated to the Tamilnadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai)

^{2,3}Lecturer, Madha College of Nursing, Chennai (Affiliated to the Tamilnadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai)

^{4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}B. Sc Nursing, III Year Students, Madha College of Nursing, Chennai (Affiliated to the Tamilnadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai)

Abstract: Patient safety is a health care discipline that emerged with evolving complexity in health care system. Safety of patient during the provision of health services that are safer and high quality is a prerequisite for strengthening health care system. A study was conducted to assess the knowledge and attitude of patient safety among ICU nurses in selected hospital at Chennai. A non-experimental descriptive design was adopted for the study and 30 ICU nurses were selected using purposive sampling technique. Modified Attitude to Patient Safety Questionnaire (APSQ) was used to assess the level of knowledge and attitude regarding patient safety. The study finding showed that the mean knowledge score on patient safety was observed as 52.83 with standard deviation of 13.123 and mean attitude score on patient safety was 76.70 with standard deviation of 7.962. The significance value of 0.041 which is less than the commonly used significance level of 0.05 indicate that thus correlation is statistically significant at $P < 0.05$.

Keywords: Knowledge, attitude, patient safety, ICU Nurses

1. Introduction

Patient safety refers to the efforts of Health care providers to reduce or avoid preventable harm to the patient during treatment, as well as the need for strategies to keep patient health risks as low as possible. Safety can also refer to the control of recognized hazards in order to achieve an acceptable level of risk. It is resulting from the modification of human behavior and designing of the physical environment to reduce hazards, thereby reducing the chance of accidents (shekelle et al. .2011).

According to WHO, patient safety is a health care discipline that emerged with evolving complexity in health care system and resulting rise of patient harm in health care facilities. Its aim to prevent and reduce risk, errors and harm that occurs to the patient during progression of health care. Safety of patient during the provision of health services that are safe and of high quality is a prerequisite for strengthening health care system and making progress toward effective **universal health coverage (UHC)**.

In India, around 5.2 million medical error take place annually. The foundation of health care system is mainly depended upon patient safety and quality of care provision. Nurses should play a leadership role to achieve the goals of patient. Nurses are in better position to improve the safety among patient as the largest healthcare providers.

Statement of the Problem

A study to assess the knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses in selected hospital at Chennai.

Objectives

- To assess the knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses.

- To determine the association between knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses with selected demographic variable.
- To correlate the knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses.

Hypothesis

There is a significant correlation between knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses.

2. Methodology

Quantitative research approach was adopted for the study. Non experimental descriptive design was selected. The study was conducted in public health center, West Mambalam, Chennai. The population consists of male and female ICU nurses who are working in Public health center. The sample of 30 ICU nurses who fulfills the inclusion criteria was chosen using purposive sampling technique. Obtained the data using Modified Attitude to patient safety questionnaire (APSQ) Carruthers, et al (2009). This is a 5 point likert scale that consist of 15 knowledge questionnaire from low to high and 20 attitude questionnaires from strongly disagree to strongly agree regarding patient safety among ICU nurses. The scoring for knowledge on patient safety is interpreted as poor, intermediate and high knowledge and regarding attitude to patient safety as unfavorable, moderately favourable and favourable attitude. After obtaining the consent from the hospital and from the nurses the data collection procedure was started. The knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses were assessed using modified attitude to patient safety questionnaire (APSQ) for 30 mins.

3. Result and Discussion

The data collected was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. With regard to age group majority of the nurses 23 (76.7%) were in of 20 - 30 years, 5 (16.7%) nurses were in the 31 - 40 years and remaining only 2 (6.7%) were >40 years. In accordance with gender, majority nurses 28 (93.3%) were females and only 2 (6.7%) were males.

In respect of educational qualification, most of the nurses 24 (80%) qualified with B. Sc Nursing and 6 (20%) had diploma in nursing. and 19 (63.3%) had 1 - 5 years of experience, 7 (23.3%) had 6 - 10 years, and 4 (13.3%) had more than 10 years. In regard to working unit, majority of the nurses 25 (83.3%) were in Medical ICU, and 5 (16.7%) were in Surgical ICU. In terms of previous exposure to training programs related to patient safety, 24 (80%) nurses were exposed to patient safety training programme while 6 (20%) them never exposed.

The first objective was to assess the knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses.

In the study the data revealed that most of the nurses (66.7%) had intermediate knowledge and 20% had poor level and remaining 13.3% ad high level on patient safety. The data revealed that majority of the ICU nurses 80% had favorable attitude on patient safety and rest 20% had moderately favorable attitude.

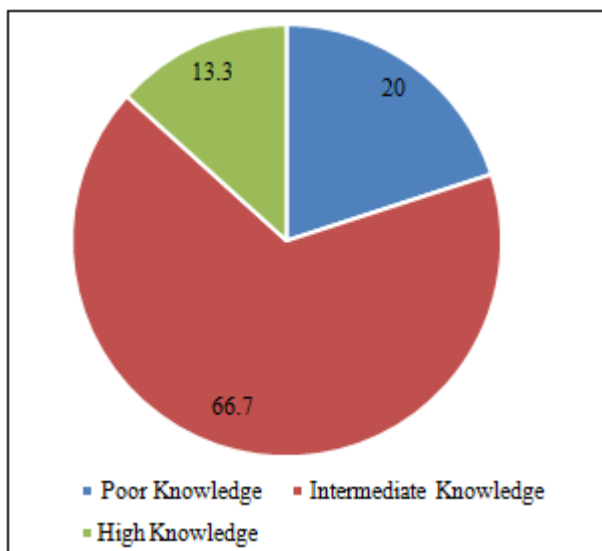


Figure 1: Presents the percentage distribution of samples according to the level of knowledge on patient safety among ICU nurses

The second objective was to determine the association between the knowledge and attitude among ICU nurses with selected demographic variable.

The analysis of the association between demographic variables and the level of attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses revealed that age (0.665) and educational qualification (0.819), years of experience (0.896) and previous exposure to training programs (0.361) did not show significant association. The result concluded that there is no significant association between selected demographic variables with level of attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses.

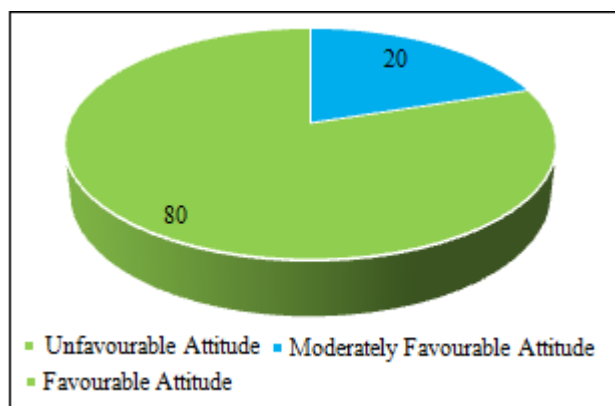


Figure 2: Presents the percentage distribution of samples according to the level of attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses

The third objective was to correlate the knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses.

The mean knowledge score on patient safety was observed as 52.83 with a standard deviation of 13.123 and the mean attitude score on patient safety was 76.70 with a standard deviation of 7.962. The correlation value $r = +0.375$ and significant value 0.041, shows a significant positive correlation between knowledge and attitude.

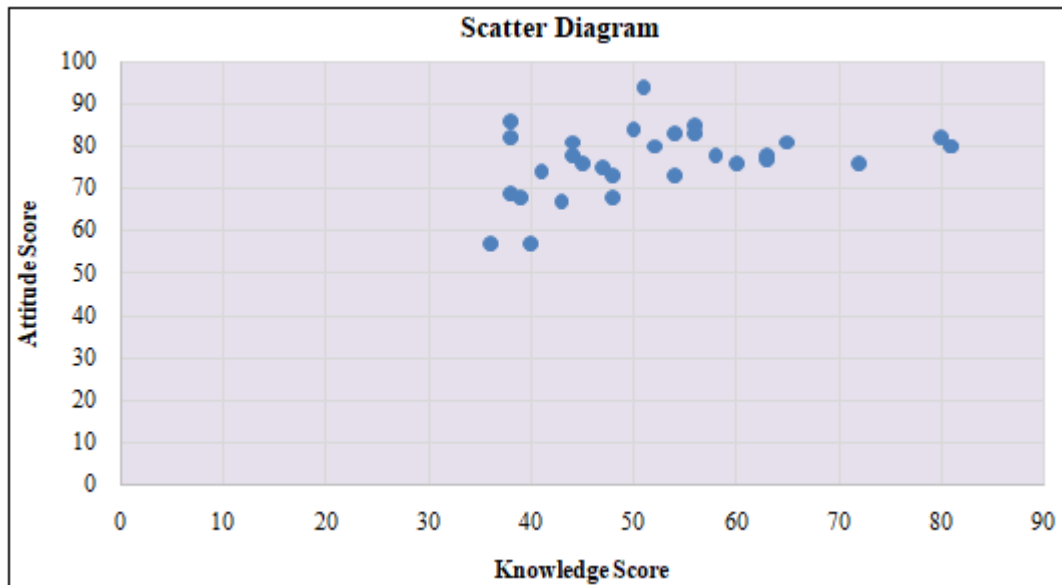


Figure 3: presents correlation between knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses

4. Conclusion

The present study was conducted to assess the knowledge and attitude on patient safety among ICU nurses. The study finding showed that they have intermediate level of knowledge and favourable attitude regarding patient safety. There was a significant positive correlation between knowledge and attitude on patient safety.

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