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A STUDY TO ASSESSS THE KNOWLEDGE OF 3RD YEAR B SC NURSING STUDENTS REGARDING CARE OF NEWBORN ON PHOTOTHERAPY IN A SELECTED NURSING COLLEGE OF MYSURU, KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Neonates are considered to be tiny and powerless and more of all treasure to the nation, completely dependent on others for their adaptation in the external environment within one minute of birth. Neonatal Jaundice is one of the most common condition requiring medical attention in newborn babies, approximately 60% of term and 80% of preterm babies develop jaundice in the 1st week of life. Healthcare providers need to be familiar with the diagnosis and management of jaundice to prevent brain, vision and hearing damage. Treatment of choice for jaundice remains close observation and frequent feeding followed by phototherapy and exchange transfusion. **Methods**: The aim of the study is to assess the knowledge 3rd year B Sc Nursing students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy. Research design adopted for the study was descriptive survey design. Non probability convenience sampling technique was adopted to select 70 nursing students for the study. Personal Proforma was used to assess the selected personal variables and structured knowledge questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge of regarding care of newborn on phototherapy. **Results:** The results of the study revealed that that majority 46(65.71%) of BSc Nursing students had average knowledge, 22(31.42%) students had poor knowledge and 2(2.85%) had good knowledge and the results also depicted that there was no significant association found between knowledge of nursing students with their personal variables except for source of information. Hence null hypothesis was partially accepted. **Discussion**: The study has revealed that the knowledge of BSc Nursing students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy was inadequate. The knowledge of nursing students must be enhanced through conducting planned Teaching Program which will be effective in improving the knowledge and skill in taking care of the newborn on phototherapy. Therefore, the study reinforces the need to organize health campaigns and teaching program which sensitize the nursing students.

KEYWORDS: Knowledge, neonatal jaundice and its management, Nursing students.

INTRODUCTION

Neonatal Jaundice is one of the most common condition requiring medical attention in newborn babies, approximately 60% of term and 80% of preterm babies develop jaundice in the 1st week of life, and about 10% of breastfed babies are still jaundiced at 1 month of age. In most babies with jaundice there is no underlying disease and this early jaundice (term physiological jaundice) is generally harmless. During this process of the physiological process or adaptation for its survival of the infants life or neonates have to face many life threatening problems such as asphyxia, hypothermia, hyperthermia, infections and neonatal jaundice etc. So the assessment and care of newborn is very essential.[1]

Neonatal jaundice is a common problem affecting over half of all full term and most of the preterm infants. Jaundice is noticed during the first week of life after birth. Healthcare providers need to be familiar with the diagnosis and management of jaundice to prevent brain, vision and hearing damage. Treatment of choice for jaundice remains close observation and frequent feeding followed by phototherapy and finally exchange transfusion for sense or refractory.[2]

Two-thirds of infant deaths in India occur in the first month of life. Approximately three-quarters of Indian neonatal deaths occur within one week of birth while 90% occur within the first two weeks of life. A major challenge in Indian rural areas is that most of the births take place at home, assisted by untrained personnel. As well as the risks associated with the use of traditional birth attendants, the environment into which a child is born also influences survival. Therefore, it is important to know about risk factors and prevention of neonatal jaundice.[3]

A descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge regarding the importance of care of newborn on photo therapy among staff nurse at selected hospital, Bagalkot. A sample of 50 was collected using descriptive survey design. Data collection was done using knowledge questionnaire. The result of study shows that overall knowledge mean was 13.22, standard deviation 2.27 and means percentage was 52.8. Thus, the study revealed that 6% of staff nurse have adequate knowledge, 52% moderate knowledge and 42% have inadequate knowledge.[4]

Structured teaching program was conducted to assess the knowledge and practice regarding phototherapy application among third year R.G.N.M nursing students at school of nursing Krishna hospital, Karad. The samples of 50 third year RGNM nursing students were selected using purposive sampling technique from government WNC hospital, Palakkad. The data collection tool consists of a personal profile and structure teaching program to assess the level of knowledge and practice, majority of samples belongs to 20- 21 year of age; that is of 28% majority of samples are Hindu that is 35% majority of samples were females that is 41% in protest majority 12% samples had poor knowledge, 86% had average knowledge and 2% had good knowledge where as in posttest 100% had good knowledge. Pretest mean value was 13.3 and posters mean value was 22.7 and there was no association between pretest knowledge score and demographic variables. Further, the Study concluded that there was significant gain in knowledge score after structured teaching program of 3rd year RGNM nursing students and need for organizing such teaching interventions.[5]

A descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge regarding neonatal jaundice and its management among staff nurse in selected hospital at Mysuru. The sample of 60 staff nurse were selected using non probability convenience sampling technique. The study shows that 35% of the samples belong to the age group between 21-30 years and majority of 91.66% sample have completed general nursing and 35% were working in NICU. 30% of staff nurse has 1-3 years of experience and 86.67 of staff nurse have not undergone any in service education. Thus the study revealed that majority of staff nurse had average knowledge of 51.66% regarding neonatal jaundice.

For successful management, the staff nurses should have adequate knowledge on early detection, level of serum bilirubin and interventions. The overall aim of the study is to provide information about neonatal jaundice to prevent complications of neonatal jaundice by staff nurses.[6]

For successful management, nurses should have adequate knowledge on early detection, level of serum bilirubin and care of newborn on phototherapy. The overall aim of the study is to provide information about neonatal jaundice and its management through phototherapy.

Objectives
1. To assess the level of knowledge of 3rd year BSc students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy.
2. To find the association between level of knowledge of 3rd year BSc nursing students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy and their selected personal variables.
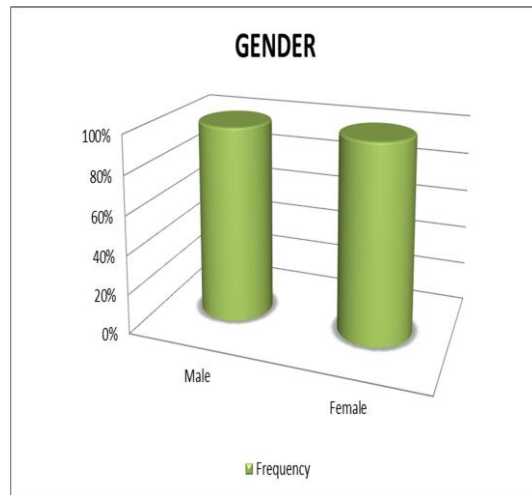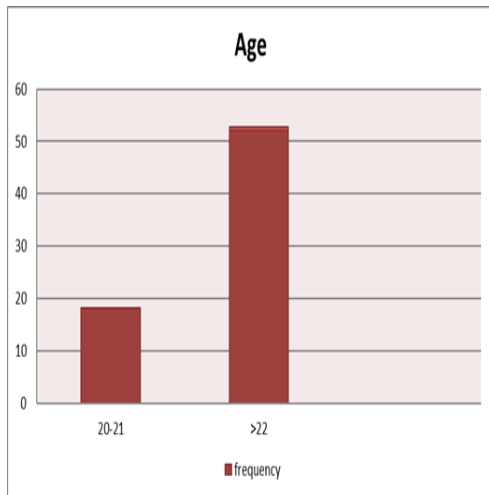
Hypotheses
H_1: There will be a significant association between level of knowledge of 3rd year BSc nursing students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy and their selected personal variables
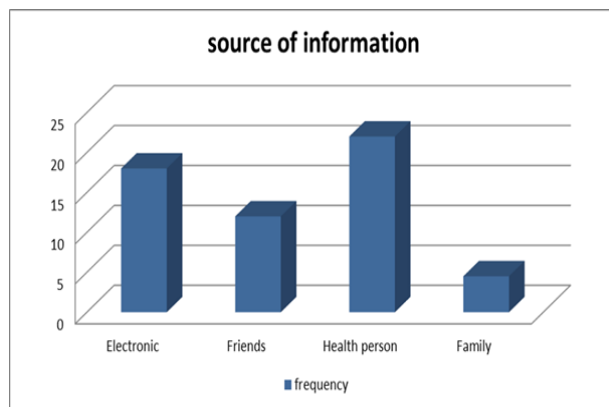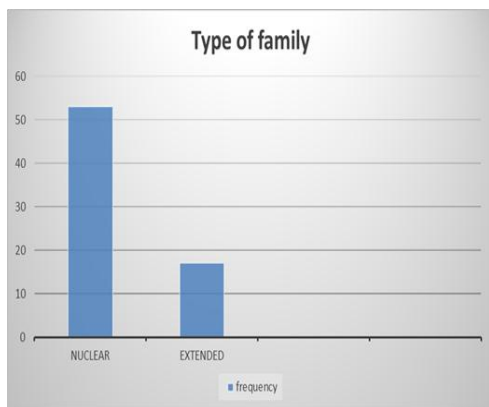
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research design adopted for the study was descriptive survey design. Non probability convenience sampling technique was adopted to select 70 nursing students from a selected nursing college in Mysuru city for the study. Personal Proforma was used to assess the selected personal variables and structured knowledge questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge of regarding care of newborn on phototherapy among nursing students. Tools were content validated by six experts in the field of nursing. The reliability was 0.7 and the tool was found to be reliable.
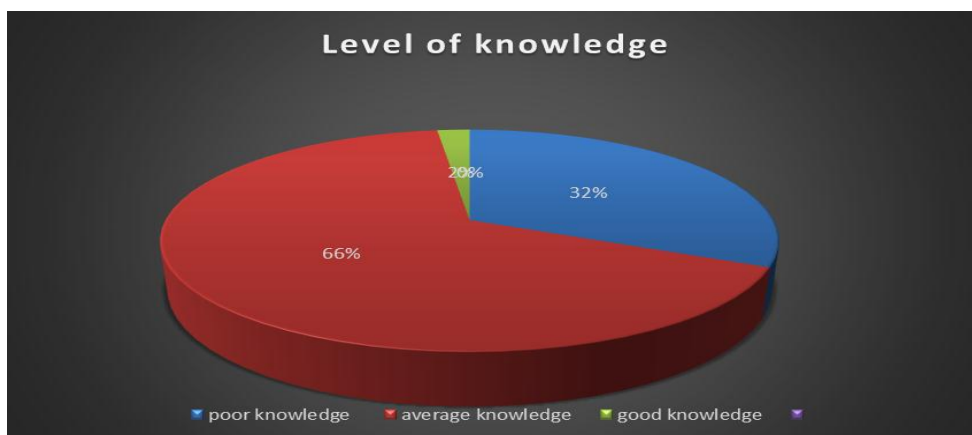
RESULTS

Section 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of 3rd year BSc Nursing students according to their selected personal variables.

Section 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of 3rd year B Sc Nursing students according to their level of knowledge.

Section 3: Mean, median, standard deviation and range of knowledge scores n=70.]

Variable	Mean	Median	Range	SD
Knowledge score	23.04	22	11-32	5.47

Section 4: Association between the level of knowledge of 3rd year BSc Nursing students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy with their selected personal variables.

No significant association found between the level of knowledge and their selected personal variables except for sources of information regarding neonatal jaundice

and its management at 0.05 level of significance. Hence, null hypothesis H01 is partially supported.

CONCLUSION

The study has revealed that the knowledge of BSc Nursing students regarding care of newborn on phototherapy was inadequate. The knowledge of nursing students must be enhanced through conducting Planned Teaching Program regarding neonatal jaundice and care of baby on phototherapy. Therefore, the study reinforces the need to organize health campaigns and teaching program which sensitize the nursing students.

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