



A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF STAFF NURSES REGARDING PREVENTION OF HEPATITIS –B

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ABSTRACT

Aim: The aim of this study was to assess the knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding prevention of hepatitis B. **Background:** Hepatitis B is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver. Chronic Hepatitis B can cause liver cell damage which can lead to cirrhosis and cancer. The world health organization recommends the integration of the HB vaccine into the national immunization program in all countries. **Design:** The research approach adopted for study was quantitative research approach using descriptive survey design. **Methods:** Quantitative research approach was used with descriptive survey research design. Total 100 Staff nurses have considered by using convenient sampling techniques. The tool used for data collection was structured knowledge questionnaire and attitude scales. The data was analyzed by using descriptive statistics. **Result:** The mean knowledge score of staff nurses is 11.68 ± 2.78 and the mean score of attitude of staff nurses is 79.53 ± 7.36 regarding the prevention of Hepatitis-B. There was no co-relation between knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding the prevention of Hepatitis-B. There no significant association of knowledge and attitude with sample characteristics at 0.05. **Conclusion:** The acute Hepatitis-B virus (HBV) infection may be mild, self-limiting or it can cause fatal culminant or sum culminant Hepatic failure in a small percentage of infected person. It is a major cause of morbidity. Therefore, it is suggested that there is necessary to have knowledge regarding prevention of Hepatitis-B.

KEYWORDS :

BACKGROUND

Hepatitis B is a virus that causes inflammation of the liver. Chronic Hepatitis B can cause liver cell damage which can lead to cirrhosis and cancer. There are 5 main Hepatitis viruses, referred to as types A, B, C, D and E.

HBV is the most variable among DNA viruses mostly, because of its unique life cycle which includes the activity of error prone enzyme, reverse transcriptase and the very high vision production of various viruses. About 14 to 16 million people are infected with Hepatitis B infection per year. The likelihood of developing symptoms of hepatitis as a result of new Hepatitis B infection is age dependent.

Over 90 percent of prenatal Hepatitis B infections are asymptomatic, while the typical manifestations of acute hepatitis are noted in 5-15 percent of newly infected young children adolescents and adults. Hepatitis B infection is the major health problem all over the world. The disease is highly variable. The infective material is blood products which is causing morbidity.

Hepatitis B virus has many routes of transmission such as sharing needles, utensils, body piercings, and tattoos, during delivery when the baby comes in contact with the mother's body fluids in the birth canal, organ transplants, occupational exposure among health care workers, unprotected sexual contact, vertical transmission, intravenous drug use or through blood products and contamination during medical procedures. The virus is transmitted through contact with the blood or other body fluids of an infected one.

Job related exposure to percutaneous injuries is a considerable source of infection with blood borne pathogens among health care workers. It was estimated that 66,000 Hepatitis B occurred in the year 2011 worldwide. Control of Hepatitis B infection has therefore been recognized as a priority all over the world. There is no specific and effective therapy.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

This study has a descriptive survey research design, which was subjected to quantitative content analysis. In the study convenient sampling technique was used to select samples from population. Sample size was 100 staff nurses working in different wards of MMIMS&R and Hospital Mullana, Ambala Haryana. The study aimed to assess the knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding prevention of Hepatitis –B. Data was collected through (Performa for demographic variables, structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the level of knowledge of staff nurses regarding Hepatitis-B, Attitude scale to assess the level of attitude of staff nurses regarding Hepatitis –B through paper and pencil technique.

Data collection

Formal approval was obtained from Nursing superintendent MMIMS&R and hospital of Mullana, Ambala, Haryana. Data was collected on February 2021. Self introduction and the nature of the study were explained to the selected sample to obtain free and frank response. Written consent from the staff nurses was taken.

Data Analysis

Data was analyzed with descriptive. Mean, Median & Standard deviation of knowledge & attitude scores of staff nurses and Correlation between knowledge & attitude scores. Chi square was incorporated to find out association between level of knowledge and attitude score.

Ethical Consideration

Permission was taken from Nursing Superintendent of MMIMS&R Hospital, Mullana, Ambala.

RESULTS

More than half of staff nurses were in age group of 20 -25 years (69%). In the gender category majority of staff nurses were female (97%). Majority of staff nurses were GNM (87%) by education among which (51%) were having <1 year of experience. 90% of staff were unmarried. There were very few

staff nurses those are having proper knowledge of Hepatitis whereas 42% staff have not attended any conferences, workshops, seminars and they are having lack of knowledge. Majority of staff nurses were having income of Rs. 8001- 10000 (59%) approximately.

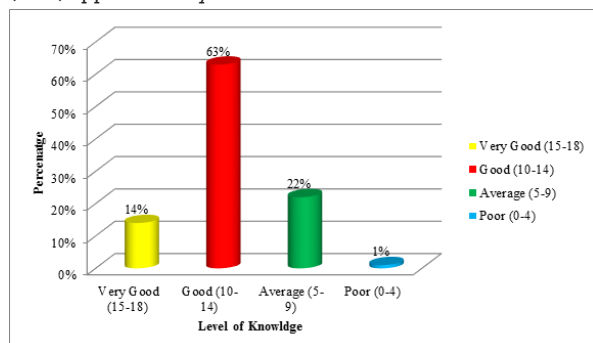


Figure 1 Showing Frequency and Percentage distribution of Level of Knowledge of Staff Nurses regarding Prevention of Hepatitis B

Table-1 Range, Mean, Median, Standard Deviation of Knowledge & Attitude Score of Staff Nurses Regarding Hepatitis -B N=100

Component	Normal Value	Range	Mean ± S.D	Mean %	Median
Knowledge	0-18	4 -17	11.68 + 2.78	64.89	12
Attitude	25-125	66-97	79.53+7.36	63.62	78.50

This table depicts range of knowledge score 4-17 and attitude score 66-97 of staff nurses and the mean knowledge score (11.68+2.78) & attitude score (79.53+7.36) of staff nurses is regarding the prevention of Hepatitis B.

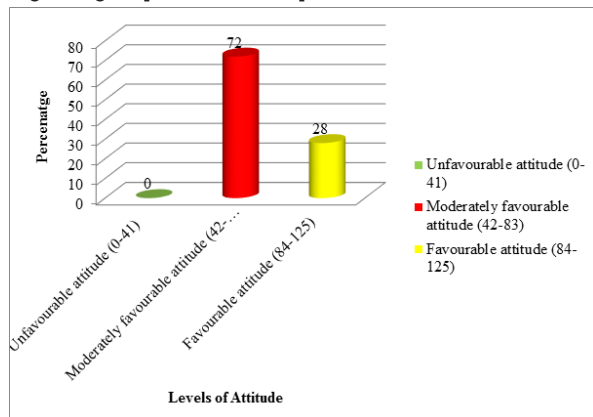


Figure 2 Showing Frequency and Percentage distribution of Level of Attitude of Staff Nurses regarding Prevention of Hepatitis B

Table-2 Correlation between Knowledge Scores and Attitude Scores N=100

Test	Mean ± SD	r	p Value
Knowledge	11.68±2.78	0.148	0.70NS
Attitude	79.53±7.36		

This table reveals that there was no correlation between knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding prevention of Hepatitis B as the p value is more than 0.05 level of significance i.e. 0.70.

Table- 3 Chi Square Value Showing Relationship between Level of Knowledge Score

S. No	Sample Characteristic	Knowledge Score				df	χ ²	P value
		Very good	Good	Average	Poor			

1.	Qualification						
1.1	GNM	12	55	19	01	6	52.03 0.00*
1.2	B.Sc. (N)	00	01	01	00		
1.3	Post B.Sc. (N)	02	07	02	00		
1.4	M.Sc. (N)	00	00	00	00		

Significant (p ≤ 0.05) not significant (p > 0.05)

This table depicts that the computed chi square value showing relationship between level of knowledge score is only associated with qualification.

Table- 4 Chi Square Showing Relationship between Level of Attitude Score

S. No	Sample Characteristics	Attitude Scores		df	χ ²	P value
		Unfavourable (28%)	Favourable (72%)			
1.	Marital status					
1.1	Married	00	07	1	3.35	0.005*
1.2	Unmarried	28	65			

Significant (p ≤ 0.05) not significant (p > 0.05)

This table shows the computed chi square value showing relationship between level of attitude score with marital status i.e. 0.005

DISCUSSION

A similar study was conducted by S Setia, RS Gambhir, in Gian Sagar Group of Institutions, Punjab to assess the knowledge and attitude towards Hepatitis B and C infection among the health care interns and correlate the level of awareness to the attitude they behold toward the disease. The findings of the study the revealed that, most of the interns were aware to existence of Hepatitis B and C infection thus findings are consistent with the finding of the present study, most of the staff nurses were aware regarding prevention of Hepatitis B. a direct positive correlation as found between awareness score and behavior score, which reveals that interns with better awareness level had better attitude towards the infection and prevention of Hepatitis B and C transmission, which was consistent with the findings of the current study, which reveals that there was positively weak co- relation between knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding Hepatitis B. Another study was conducted by Ataei B, Meidani M in 2014, to investigating the knowledge, attitude and performance of health service providers to provide them with the information required for their educational promotion on viral Hepatitis. The result of the study showed that medical personnel are not appropriately aware of viral Hepatitis and their performance is not satisfactory. Further continuous training is required and their needs to be more emphasis on actions regarding behaviors with high risk of infection transmission.

CONCLUSION

The acute Hepatitis-B virus (HBV) infection may be mild, self-limiting or it can cause fatal culminant or sum culminant Hepatic failure in a small percentage of infected person. Therefore, it is suggested that there is necessary to have knowledge regarding prevention of Hepatitis-B.

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