



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE ON THERAPEUTIC COMMUNICATION SKILL AMONG NURSING STUDENTS AT SELECTED COLLEGE, COIMBATORE.

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ABSTRACT

Communication is the process of conveying the messages from one person to another. Therapeutic communication is an important tool in the nursing professions. Nurses play a pivotal in the patient care. The way of communication has a very good impact on the health progress of the patient. Training of the nursing student on therapeutic communication is necessary. Therapeutic communication has a goal or purpose for the conversation. An example of a nursing goal before using therapeutic communication is, "The client will share feelings or concerns about their treatment plan, nursing care by the end of the conversation." Objectives: To assess the knowledge on therapeutic communication skill among nursing students. Methodology: A Descriptive research design was conducted with a structured questionnaire. Total of 165 nursing students were included through non-probability purposive sampling technique. The knowledge level of the therapeutic communication skill among nursing students was assessed using Global Interpersonal Therapeutic Communication Scale (GITCS). Results: Majority of the students (76%) have positive communication Skill. 24% of the students had neutral communication skill. Conclusions: Therapeutic communication is fundamental tool for the nursing students that focuses on physical, mental and social wellbeing of the client. Nursing students uses therapeutic communication technique to get good interpersonal relationship and rapport with the client.

KEYWORDS : Knowledge, Therapeutic communication skill. Nursing students, Global Interpersonal Therapeutic Communication Scale.

INTRODUCTION

The nurse patient relationship is at the foundation of providing care to the individuals. The ability to engage in therapeutic communication is crucial to build this relationship. Therapeutic communication is an important tool for establishing good rapport with the patient. Therapeutic communication useful to convey, transfer and share knowledge to the patient in the health care system. Therapeutic communication begins when the student give care to the patient. Therapeutic communication begins with the student patient interaction and progress towards the recovery of the patient.

Therapeutic communication is the fundamental tool for the nursing students. Therapeutic communication is a complex process. Establishing therapeutic communication with the patient is considered as one of the important tool for the nursing students. The present study aims to assess the knowledge on therapeutic communication skill among nursing students.

OBJECTIVES

To assess the knowledge on therapeutic communication skill among nursing students.

To find an association between the knowledge on therapeutic communication skill with their selected demographic variable.

METHODOLOGY

The research approach adopted for this study was quantitative research approach with a descriptive research design. The study was conducted at a selected nursing college, Coimbatore. Non probability purposive sampling technique used to select 165 sample. The inclusion criteria for this study was, Students those who were available at the time of data collection. Both gender was included. Students those who were willing to participate in the study. The exclusion criteria include, Students those who were in long leave. Students those who were discontinued from the course. The nursing students knowledge on therapeutic communication skill was assessed through Global interpersonal therapeutic

communication scale. Each participant was interviewed for 35-40 minutes to complete the therapeutic communication scale. Nursing students consent was obtained before the interview to maintain the confidentiality of the participants. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data such as frequency, percentage and chi square test.

The tool used for the data collection was
Section A: Demographic Variables.

Section B: Knowledge on Therapeutic communication skill among nursing students.

Section C: Association between knowledge on therapeutic communication skill with their selected demographic variable.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Section A: Distribution of Nursing students according to their demographic variables

S.no	Demographic variables	Frequency (N=165)	Percentage (%)
1	Gender		
	Male	11	7%
	female	154	93%
2	Year of studying		
	I year	95	58 %
	II year	38	23%
	III year	21	13%
	IV year	11	6%
3	Type of family		
	Nuclear	142	86%
	Joint	23	14%
4	State of residing		
	Tamilnadu	66	40%
	Kerala	99	60%

The above table explain about the frequency, percentage distribution of the demographic variables among the nursing

students about therapeutic communication skill. Majority of the students (93%) were female. 58 of the students were first year. More number of students (86%) belong to nuclear family. 60% of the nursing students from Kerala.

Section B: description of knowledge on Therapeutic communication skill

S.no	Therapeutic communication response	Frequency (N=165)	Percentage(%)
1	Positive communication	125	76%
2	Neutral communication	40	24%

The above table showed the knowledge on therapeutic communication skill among the nursing students. Majority of the students (76%) have positive communication Skill.

Section C: Association between knowledge on therapeutic communication skill with their selected demographic variable

S. No	Variables	Knowledge of therapeutic communication		df	Chi square value
		Positive communication	Neutral communication		
1	Gender Female Male	116 9	38 2	1	0.24 NS
2	Year of studying I year II Year III Year IV Year	72 28 19 6	23 10 2 5	3	5.26 NS
3	Type of family Joint Nuclear	18 107	5 35	1	0.09 NS
4	State of living Kerala Tamilnadu	71 54	28 12	1	2.2 NS

NS- No Significant Association

There is no significant association between the knowledge on therapeutic communication skill with their selected demographic variables.

DISCUSSION

The present study was conducted to assess the knowledge level on therapeutic communication skill among nursing students. 93% of the nursing students were female. Majority of the students from first and second year respectively 58%, 23%. Similar study was conducted in Odisha. The study result showed maximum (92.8%) were female. 32.8% from second year and 27% students were first year nursing students.

76% of the nursing students had positive therapeutic communication. 24% Of the students had neutral communication. A similar study was conducted in Pakistan. Study result indicated overall mean awareness score was 16.3 ± 3.2 , indicating good awareness. 80% of the students demonstrated good awareness of therapeutic communication.

CONCLUSION

Therapeutic communication skills are a vital element in all nursing care activities and involve sensitivity toward verbal and nonverbal messages as well as listening toward patients and responding effectively, also therapeutic communication skills can positively affect the quality of nursing care. Establishing therapeutic communication with the patient is considered as one of the important tool for the nursing students. The therapeutic communication skill is a cornerstone for the nursing students and excellent base at the

clinical practice. For nursing students, therapeutic communication is indispensable, especially during clinical placements where they engage with patients in real-life healthcare settings. In comparison, moderate therapeutic communication abilities and a good attitude towards the use and perception of caring behaviors were displayed by nursing students.

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