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Awareness of the Professional of Nursing: Hemodialysis X Related Infections to Health Assistance

Medical Science

KEYWORDS : Nursing; Infection; Hemodialysis.

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ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES: Highlighting misconduct of professional of nursing in nephrology in executing procedures to patients with renal disease, and evaluating them as consciousness in the process of building and searching healthcare quality.
MATERIAL AND METHODS: It was used the qualitative method, the reports from industry hemodialysis professionals through semi structured questionnaire. The study included 16 professionals of the area.
RESULTS: Of the 16 participants (100%), 11 (68.75%) had full awareness that HCAI can be acquired after procedures performed in dialysis patients, but 05 participants (31.25%) showed total ignorance.
CONCLUSION: Most participants possessed sufficient knowledge to a conscious quality care of the patient, but each professional possessed isolated consciousness. The study suggests the development of an instrument of nursing care to be applied in the hemodialysis unit, and training emphasizing the importance of awareness in relation to HCAI, promoting updates and training of conscious professionals as well as of the not conscious.

INTRODUCTION:
Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are serious public health problems in Brazil and worldwide. They´re important causes of morbidity and mortality related to people who undergo some type of clinical-surgical procedure as treatment[1].

The increased incidence of chronic diseases in the population is a known fact and has sparked many discussions on the issue. The health care of people with these diseases has been a major problem in healthcare, covering various dimensions and representing a challenge to be faced on a daily basis, both by those who experience the condition and for caregivers[2].

The frequency of antimicrobial resistant microorganisms in dialysis centers, nosocomial or outpatient, has increased dramatically in the last decade, and this makes it necessary to analyze the situation, through review of the techniques and the use of standard precautions in the care and strengthen the awareness of professional nursing through continuing education[3].

The infection in patients on hemodialysis (HD) is due to the immunosuppressive effects caused by chronic renal failure, co morbidities, inadequate nutrition and the need for maintenance of vascular access for long periods, in addition, patients undergoing HD in the same environment simultaneously facilitate the spread microorganisms by direct or indirect contact with devices, equipment, surfaces or through health professionals themselves[5].

The risk of infection is directly connected to the mechanical factor of invasive procedures (venous and arterial vascular access) and the contaminated hands of health professionals[5]. Another factor that must be considered is the microbial resistance to antibiotics, since patients on dialysis often are exposed to multidrug-resistant microorganisms[4].

The rigor in the basic principles of asepsis and in the prevention and control of infection in dialysis centers has been widely emphasized: hand hygiene, material handling sterile processing articles, use of personal protective equipment, among others, which meet the maintenance of biological safety. The relationship between contaminated hands and infectious disease transmission is one of the best documented phenomena in clinical medicine, and hand hygiene as the primary prevention of HCAI. Faced with considerations, it is worth noting the importance of scientific evidence and national and international guidelines in decision making of health professionals[6].

Only with strict standards and with the involvement of a multidisciplinary team, the occurrence of infections in HD patients will decrease. Realizing the importance of promoting programs update, the efficient supervision, and adequate training for health professionals, will benefit not only the quality of services, but especially the quality of life of patients[4].

The provision of care and awareness of each employee are influenced by its personality, and to work this issue it is necessary to understand that the HCAI belongs to a field of knowledge with multidisciplinary approaches and the experience accumulated over the years is a very influential factor.

OBJECTIVES: This study aimed to highlight misconduct of professional of nursing in nephrology on implementing procedures to patients with renal disease, and evaluate them as consciousness in the process of building and search healthcare quality.

METHODS: This study was conducted after approval by the Ethics in Research and Scientific Merit of Centro Universitário Hermínio Ometto - UNIARARAS, protocol number 639/2010 following the rules of Resolution 196/96 of CONEP, in the period between June and November 2010. For the study, qualitative methods were used, and more specifically the reports of professional of nursing during the work shift in hemodialysis, through a semi-structured, with an easy language, clear and objective, and observation of procedures performed by the same in relation to the patient. The study involved the participation of 16 professionals working in the field of hemodialysis, which directly agreed to participate. The questionnaire was designed based on other articles already published on the internet, ANVISA ordinance[7], and other materials related to the theme, which brings to this study a description of the major priorities in relation to the reality of health services.

RESULTS: Of the 16 participants (100%), 11 participants (68.75%) had full awareness that HCAI can be acquired after procedures performed in patients during hemodialysis session, but 05 participants (31.25%) had the ignorance about the concept of HCAI.

When performing the procedures in chronic renal patients dur-

ing hemodialysis, according to the questionnaire of 16 (100%) participants, 14 (87.5%) participants reported a high degree of safety and knowledge to perform the procedure on the chronic renal failure patient heath care, and only 02 (12.5%) participants reported an average degree of safety and knowledge to perform the procedure for this type of assistance, resulting from the inexperience of professional practice (06 months training).

About the risk of incorrect procedure performed on chronic renal failure patients during hemodialysis, out of 16 (100%) participants, 15 (93.75%) participants reported the existence of consciousness of risk or harm to the patient with chronic kidney disease on the incorrect procedure performed by professional nephrology nursing and only 01 (6.25%) participant could not answer.

And finally on the importance of hand hygiene technique, the questionnaire showed that of 16 (100%) participants, 14 (87.5%) participants had full awareness that the technique of hand hygiene is of great importance, and only 02 (12.5%) participants responded that the technique of hand hygiene depends on the procedure performed, this comes to show the importance of the knowledge renewal acquired, by the time of professional training.

DISCUSSION: General knowledge of the participants on the study of Awareness of the Professional of nursing: Hemodialysis x HCAI was adequate, however limited. This fact is extremely worrying, since this individual perception was compromised due to the lack of factors of utmost importance.

The question that relates the awareness of HCAI may be acquired after procedures performed in patients during hemodialysis session had agreed to another study, when it says that the characterization of professional nursing and knowledge are related to personal factors and vocational training, and that the younger who graduated recently demonstrated ignorance about preventive control of HCAI[8].

According to studies, nursing professionals are responsible for much of the health care activities and, therefore, are in a unique position to reduce the possibility of incidents reaching the patient and to detect complications early and perform the behaviors necessary to minimize damage[9].

In the procedures performed in patients with chronic renal failure during hemodialysis, the results corroborate other authors, as they say, another important factor to be considered by the nurse is the education, because it provides the individual with the ability to deal with any eventual adversity. Thus, the nurse, as an educator, should encourage the practice of educational activities, offering these individuals the opportunity to learn more about their disease, treatment options and assist in the adoption of mechanisms to deal with the situation experienced[10].

Complications occurred during hemodialysis session may be eventual and may undermine worker safety at the time of its performance, and some may be extremely severe and fatal, so as the nurse is the professional who assists more closely the patient on hemodialysis, it should be fit, safe to intervene and thus prevent other potential complications[11].

According to the question of the risk of the incorrect procedure performed on chronic renal failure patients during hemodialysis, in the reported results, it is understood the need for educational measures with the nursing staff and guidance to the patient, including the need of documenting the actions implemented and observations in patient contact, by the means of annotations to track its evolution, so it is important to have aware, competent and updated professionals, trained to self-criticism and performance in teamwork, in order to positively affect their environment, in benefit of the community. It is believed that infection control in health care depends, arguably, on the multidisciplinary exercise and therefore the awareness of all[12].

Among other studies consulted, it was observed that other health professionals cannot define the risks, but it is important that nursing would have the knowledge about this issue, to develop skills, to detect and to prevent possible complications in dialysis. Lack of knowledge can be addressed through quick and inexpensive actions disseminating the concepts and the information about the risk management[9].

It is recognized the difficulties that health professionals face in their practice and the dilemmas related to the pursuit of scientific knowledge, it is also necessary to emphasize the importance of updating this knowledge, it is extremely important to ensure the credibility of information on levels of scientific evidence[13].

And finally on the importance of hand hygiene technique, the results show that the professionals have the awareness of that the infections can occur not only through the prolonged vascular access (catheters), equipment and materials, solutions and medicines contaminated, air and contaminated water, disinfectant inappropriate, but by the hands of health professionals[14].

However there is a problem that still persists to this day, occurrence of the lack of adherence to the professional practice of hand hygiene; despite all the educational resources, the technique standards, development of new products, the professionals involved in health care do not demonstrate the necessary adhesion to the correct technique during exercise of its functions[15].

CONCLUSION: Based on this study, it was concluded that most participants have sufficient knowledge to conscious quality care to patients with chronic kidney disease, but among these, each professional has consciousness on attitudes isolated. The study suggests the development of an instrument of nursing care to be applied in the hemodialysis unit and training among all professionals emphasizing the importance of awareness in relation to HCAI, updates and promoting professional training in many conscious and unconscious.

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