



A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO IDENTIFY THE ATTITUDE OF STAFF NURSES TOWARDS PROBLEMS FACED DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AT SELECTED HOSPITAL, KOLHAPUR, MAHARAHTRA

Nursing

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ABSTRACT

Staff nurses are at the frontline of COVID-19 pandemic response and are exposed to dangers like pathogen exposure, long working hours, psychological distress, fatigue occupational burnout and stigma, and physical violence. The newly discovered coronavirus (COVID-19) has become a pandemic, infecting thousands of people around the world. This study examines nurses' demographic information (age, gender, marital status, area of practice, total years of experience in the current hospital, educational level, workplace, total nursing experience) attitudes of COVID-19 during the outbreak in India. **Objective:** To identify the attitude of working staff nurses regarding problem faced during covid-19. **Method:** The research approach adopted for the study was quantitative evaluative survey and the research design was Descriptive research. By using Non probability, purposive sampling technique 100 staff nurses were selected from Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Kolhapur. Tool consist of attitude scale. The demographic variables include Age in years, Gender, Course, Clinical experience, Clinical area, Training on Covid-19, Marital status, Type of family. **Result:** 100 samples were selected conveniently from Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Kolhapur. The findings of the study revealed that the level of that majority of staff nurses (72%) had a favourable attitude and (28%) had unfavorable attitude. **Conclusion:** The findings of the study revealed that the level of that majority of staff nurses (72%) had a favourable attitude and (28%) had unfavorable attitude.

KEYWORDS

Pandemic, Covid-19, Staff nurses, Attitude, Problem.

INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 was first diagnosed in Wuhan, a city in the province of Hubei, China, in December 2019 and started to quickly spread around the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 virus a pandemic on 11 March 2020. On 21 November 2020, there were 57 million COVID-19 cases and 1 million 400 thousand deaths due to COVID-19 in the world.

All health care professionals, especially nurses, have been seriously affected by the pandemic. During this period, health care professionals have encountered heavier workloads, longer working hours, a more stressful working environment, and insufficient medical and protective materials. Health care professions working in hospitals where individuals infected with COVID-19 are admitted and providing care to those individuals increase their risk of infection.

HCWs experience emotional exhaustion, which may lead to medical errors, lack of empathy in treating patients, lower productivity, and higher turnover rates. The ability of HCWs to adequately cope with stressors is important for their patients, their families, and themselves. Providers vary in levels of psychological resilience, the ability to positively adapt to adversity to protect themselves from stress.

Health care professionals have continued to try and fulfil both their work-related and family-related responsibilities during the pandemic. However, fear of infecting family members negatively affects health care professionals' family relationships which causes them to self-isolate. These negative circumstances encountered both in their work and in social life have increased the incidence rate of depression, anxiety and sleep disorder symptoms in health care professionals. Various physiological and psychological negative situations experienced by health care professionals due to the COVID-19 pandemic have been shown to increase their perception of organisational obstruction and decrease their professional commitment, which can in turn accelerate the turnover process of health care professional.

Need For The Study:

In the last decade, professional practice environments and their impact on professionals, clients, and institutions have been one of the main research areas. However, in the context of a pandemic, it becomes crucial to quickly identify the weakest areas and define strategies for improvement.

Despite the high pressure COVID-19 placed on various health systems and their professionals, the disease caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV2), which quickly spread worldwide, having determined that in March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) would declare a pandemic, brought relevance and visibility to the nurses' role in health care, as well as in

the management area, particularly in the rapid restructuring of services.

It is known that nurses were asked to work in highly complex and uncertain environments, where all individual resources had to be mobilized to quickly adapt to the numerous changes imposed by the pandemic. Along with the need for reorganization of health services, one study highlights that the current pandemic has triggered psychological experiences shaped by the structural conditions of the health system and its institutions, with its repercussions on professional practice.

Representing the main workforce in the health area, nursing professionals were on the front lines from the beginning of the pandemic, and experienced a negative impact on their mental health, whose severity was aggravated by the poor working conditions, which, in many situations, were present before the pandemic. In fact, over the last decade, nurses have been paying attention to the need to improve the nursing professional practice environments, but this investment has not been sufficiently noticeable. As a consequence, the COVID-19 pandemic aggravated some of the difficulties that these professionals were already facing, particularly in hospital settings.

In addition, nurses represent a workforce that is difficult to replace. The threat to their health and well-being may lead to negative repercussions on themselves and the care they provide. Thus, to avoid the collapse of services and the nursing workforce, the challenge involves ensuring practice environments that are more favorable to the quality of care and nurses' satisfaction, commitment, and involvement in the continuum of facing the pandemic and after it. Authors found that the commitment to the organization was the strongest predictor of professional retention, which is particularly relevant in the context of the current pandemic, knowing that the retention of qualified and experienced nurses is critical for the institutions' management in all countries. The pandemic has impacted the nursing profession in ways we cannot fully understand as the impacts are ongoing and profound.

OBJECTIVE:

1. To determine the level of attitude of staff nurses towards problems faced during Covid-19 Pandemic.

METHODOLOGY:

Quantitative evaluative survey approach is used the research design was Descriptive research. By using Non probability, purposive sampling technique 100 staff nurses were selected from Dr. D. Y. Patil Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Kolhapur. The tool is developed into two sections, Section A-

The socio demographic variables used for the present study are Age in years, Gender, Course, Clinical experience, Clinical area, Training on

Covid-19, Marital status, Type of family. Section B- Attitude likert scale on problem faced during Covid pandemic by staff nurses.

RESULTS:

The obtained data were analyzed by using descriptive statistics, presented on tables and diagrams and interpreted.

Section A: The data presented indicates that,

Majority of the staff nurses (64%) belonged to 21 to 25 years of age, and (27%) staff nurse belonged to 26 to 30 years , (8%) staff nurses belonged to 31 to 35 years of age, (1%) belonged to more than 36 years of age.

Out of 100 staff nurses majority (86%) were females,(14%) are males. Majority were (46%) completed G.N.M , (38%) were completed P.B.B.Sc. , (16%) were completed B.Sc(N).

Majority of staff nurses (24%) worked in covid ICU, (19%) in covid ward , (4%) in casualty , (2%) in OT.

Majority Clinical experience (23%) of staff nurses was 0 to 1 years , (22%) was 1 to 5 years , (2%) was 6 to 10 years , and (2%) was above 10 years. (98%) staff nurses taken training on Covid-19 and (2%) were not taken the training.

There are (51%) staff nurses are married and (49%) are unmarried (53%) staff nurses have joint family and (47%) have nuclear family

Section B: Attitude scores.

It consisted of 26 items of likert scale on Attitude questions on problem / factors faced during Covid pandemic by staff nurses.

Attitude scores were categorized as follows: $n=100$

Level of attitude	Range of score	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Unfavourable Attitude	26 - 78	28	28
Favourable Attitude	79-130	72	72

Data in table shows that majority of staff nurses(72%) had a favourable attitude and (28%) had unfavorable attitude.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this study was to Identify The Attitude Of Staff Nurses Towards Problems Faced During Covid-19 Pandemic

Section A: Findings related to distribution socio -demographic variables.

Section B: Attitude scores

CONCLUSION

All together 100 respondents participated in the study. Majority of staff nurses(72%) had a favourable attitude and (28%) had unfavorable attitude. In conclusion, female nurses, married nurses, and bachelor's degree nurses had greater awareness, favourable attitude, and prevention clinical experience towards COVID-19

Implication of the Study:

The findings of the study have implication for the written following headings-Nursing practice, administration, nursing education, nursing research, general education in community.

1.Nursing Education-

The educational background of nurse will help her to function as a health educator and she will play a crucial role in Covid-19.The student should be able to find out problems faced by nurses during Covid-19. Today's students are tomorrow's nurses. An effective education/ guidance to nursing students will have better impact and positive attitude while working.

2.Nursing Practice

Nurses working in the hospitals faces many problems while working. The nursing personnel during her work in hospital can impart attitude about problems and can guide them towards a healthy working environment.

3.Nursing Administration

Nurses are challenged to play the role of efficient administrators as well as practitioners. Administration in both private and government

sectors should take initiative action to update the positive attitude of health personnel regarding Covid-19.

4.Nursing Research

The importance of research in nursing is to build the body of knowledge. The findings of the present study serve as the basis for the professionals and students, to conduct further studies. In depth research studies of attitude regarding Covid-19 among staff nurse can be conducted in a large scale. The present research project can serve as review for other researchers.

Recommendation-

The researcher recommended that:-

1. A similar study can be replicated with large population.
2. A comparative study can be conducted by comparing rural and urban population.
3. A longitudinal study may be carried out to determine the level of retention of knowledge about causes and prevention of low birth weight baby among antenatal mother.

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