



A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AMONG STUDENTS IN SELECTED NURSING INSTITUTIONS AT TRIVANDRUM DISTRICT

Nursing

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Organ transplantation is enabling to enhance the quality of life of patients with end – stage organ failure. However, all patients suffering from end-stage organ failure do not have the equal opportunity for organ transplantation because of lack of donated organs. **Materials And Methods:** The research approach used was quantitative approach and the design was descriptive design. Population of the study was first year, second year and fourth year BSc Nursing Students of Sree Gokulam Nursing College, Venjaramoodu at Thiruvananthapuram District. The sample size was 180 students and were selected by convenience sampling technique. **Results:** The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The study findings shows that, majority (84.4%) has average knowledge, 10.6% has good knowledge and only 5% has poor knowledge regarding organ donation. Also, majority (55.6%) has favorable attitudes, 34.4% has highly favorable attitude, 9.4% has neutral attitude and 0.6% has unfavorable attitude regarding organ donation. The study shows that there is a significant relationship between knowledge and attitude regarding organ donation among nursing students with ($r=0.34$), ($p=0.01$). The correlation coefficient value is significant ($p<0.05$) at 0.05 level, when knowledge is adequate and attitude improves.

KEYWORDS

knowledge, attitude, organ donation.

INTRODUCTION

Life is a dynamic process. It starts from birth and ends with the death of an individual. In between comes different stages of life with different diseases and its problems. The art of organ transplantation has indeed come a long way. There is always an ever – increasing demand for the organs, which are always in short supply all over the world.¹

Organ transplantation is one of the greatest medical marvels of the twentieth century. It has prolonged and improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of patients worldwide. The acts of generosity by organ donors and their families have made transplantation not only a lifesaving treatment but also a shining symbol of human solidarity.²

Current advanced technologies in organ transplantation are the fruits of more than a century of pioneering efforts in surgery. The desire to remove tissue from an anatomical site and use it as auto grafts or allograft for cosmetic, restorative, or therapeutic reasons has its roots in ancient civilizations.³

However, only in the early twentieth century were successful transplantations of non- visceral tissues such as human skin and cornea were achieved due to surgical advances in vascular anastomosis.³

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study followed a descriptive research design using a quantitative approach, formal permission was obtained from institutional research committee, ethical committee and head of the institution. Data were collected over a period of one week. A total of 120 students of Sree Gokulam Nursing College, Venjaramoodu. The purpose of the study was well explained to the study subjects and informed consent was obtained. The investigator maintained good interpersonal relationship with subjects and confidentiality was maintained for each subjects. Based on the objectives of the study, Socio- demographic performance, knowledge questionnaire and attitude scale was found to be appropriate and feasible to collect relevant data. The tool validity was established.

RESULTS

A. Sample Characteristics

Majority 63.3% nursing students were in the age group of 19-20 years, 25.5% had 21-22 year, 5.6% had above 22 years and 5.6% of the subjects were in the group of 17 - 18 years. Majority 79.4% students were females and 20.6% were males. More than half 61.6% of subjects were Hindus, 23.4% were Christians and 15% were belonging to Muslim religion. Majority 64% students resides in rural, 36% were urban. Majority 59% belongs to first year, 28% were fourth year and 13% were second year. Majority 59% had their source of information from media, 37% had health professionals, 3% had family members and relatives and 1% had friends and neighbours.

B. Frequency And Percentage Distribution Of Knowledge

Regarding Organ Donation Among Students N=180

Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage	Mean
Good	19	10.6	16.65
Average	152	84.4	
Poor	9	5.0	

C. Frequency And Percentage Distribution Of Attitude Regarding Organ Donation Among Students

Attitude	Frequency	Percentage	Mean
Highly favorable	62	34.3	68.30
Favorable	100	55.6	
Neutral	17	9.4	
Unfavorable	1	0.6	

D. Correlation Between Knowledge And Attitude Regarding Organ Donation Among Nursing Students

As the results shows that there is a weak positive correlation [$r=0.34$], [$p=0.01$]. The correlation coefficient value is significant [$p<0.05$], at 0.05 level. When knowledge increases, attitude improves.

DISCUSSION

The present study revealed that 84.4% has average knowledge, 10.6% has good knowledge and only 5% has poor knowledge regarding organ donation

The present study reported that 55.6% has favorable attitude, 34.4% has highly favorable attitude, 9.4% has neutral attitude and 0.6% has unfavorable attitude towards organ donation.

The present study shows that there is weak positive correlation [$r=0.34$], [$p=0.01$]. The correlation coefficient value is significant [$p<0.05$], at 0.05 level. When the knowledge is adequate attitude improves.

This research has been conducted on knowledge and attitude regarding organ donation among students. The present study clearly demonstrated the knowledge and attitude regarding organ donation among college students. The study found that there is a weak positive correlation between knowledge and attitude ($r=0.34$). The results revealed that knowledge is adequate, knowledge improves.

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