



**ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER**

**Obstetrics & Gynaecology**

**TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF FEMALE STAFF NURSES REGARDING REPRODUCTIVE TRACT INFECTION IN SELECTED HOSPITAL OF INDORE (M.P.)**

**KEY WORDS:** REPRODUCTIVE TRACT INFECTION

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background** - Reproductive tract infection is a global health problem including both sexually transmitted infection and non-transmitted infection of the reproductive tract. Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) continue to be a major cause of acute illness, cancer, infertility, long-term disability, and death with severe medical and psychological.

**Aim** - A research was conducted on assess the knowledge of female staff nurse regarding reproductive tract infection in selected Hospital of Indore (M.P.)

**Objectives** –

- To assess the knowledge of female staff nurses regarding Reproductive tract infection.
- To find out the association between the knowledge scores of female staff nurses regarding Reproductive tract infection with their demographic variables.

**Methodology** – a descriptive research approach with non experimental research design used to achieve the objectives of the study.

**Result** - The findings of the study showed that the demographic variables such as age, marital status, year of experience are having significant relationship & other variables such as education & working area have no significant relationship with knowledge. The 'f' value (one way annova) of age is 13.20, paired t test value of marital status is 3.15 & 'f' value of year of experience is 12.8 are at significant levels. The 'f' value of education is 1.56 & working area is 0.84 are non significant.

**INTRODUCTION**

Reproductive tract infection is a global health problem including both sexually transmitted infection and non-transmitted infection of the reproductive tract. Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) continue to be a major cause of acute illness, cancer, infertility, long-term disability, and death with severe medical and psychological consequences for millions of men, women, and infants. RTIs are infections affecting the reproductive tract and can be endogenous infections (resulting from the organisms normally existing in the vagina), iatrogenic infections (resulting from abortions, insertion of IUD, child birth, and so on), and sexually transmitted infections RTIs are a major public health problem all over the world. Sexual and reproductive health has also been omitted from the Millennium Development Goals and remains neglected. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 448 million new STIs occur annually among adults aged 15 to 49 years and many are asymptomatic. The World Bank estimates that STIs (excluding HIV) account for 8.9% of all disease burdens in women aged 15 to 45 years, thus stressing the need for control of RTIs, especially STIs in developing countries. Though effective treatment is available for most of these infections.

**NEED FOR THE STUDY –**

RTIs have not only been the Cinderella of tropical medicine, but more especially a neglected aspect of women's health. Both women and newborns bear the bulk of the prevailing RTI health consequences, which not only inflict physical discomfort but also serious societal problems. RTIs cause PID with resultant infertility, ectopic pregnancy, cervical cancer, foetal wastage, low birth weight, infant blindness, neonatal pneumonia, and mental retardation. If left untreated, it can increase the risk of maternal and neonatal mortality.

**STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

A Study to assess the knowledge of female staff nurses regarding reproductive tract infection in selected Hospital Of Indore (M.P.).

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To assess the knowledge of female staff nurses regarding Reproductive tract infection
- To find out the association between the knowledge scores of female staff nurses regarding Reproductive tract infection with their demographic variables.

**HYPOTHESIS –**

**H1:** There will be significant association of knowledge of female staff nurses regarding reproductive tract infection.

**H2:** There will be significant association of knowledge of female staff nurses regarding reproductive tract infection with their socio demographic variables.

**DELIMITATIONS -** The study is delimited to

- The female staff nurses in the age group of 18-35years in Bombay hospital Indore.
- The female staff nurses who are available at the time of study.
- The female staff nurses who are willing to participate in the study.

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

**Geetha Mani (2013)** This study was conducted to determine the prevalence of RTIs in married women aged 18 to 45 years in a rural area of Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu Among the 520 women who participated in the study, the prevalence of RTIs was 33.3% (95% CI: 33.3±3.4%). Vaginal discharge was the commonest symptom (23.7%). RTIs were significantly associated with age of women, duration of marriage.

**Ranjan Kumar Prusty , et al (2013)** surveyed to understand prevalence of RTI & treatment seeking behaviour among married adolescent women aged 15-19 years in India. Around 50% reported to have any symptoms of RTI. Lower abdominal pains, pain during inter & itching or irritation over vulva are the major symptoms reported by adolescent women. 22% of women aborted have any RTI symptoms as compared to 14% of women who not aborted.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY -**

**RESEARCH DESIGN-** descriptive research was used to achieve the objective of the study. And the research design used was survey approach research design.

**TARGET POPULATION -** Female staff nurses

**ACCESSIBLE POPULATION -** Female staff nurses working in Bombay Hospital Indore.

**VARIABLES**

**Dependent variable**

**Independent variable** the independent variable in this study was socio-demographic factors like age, experience education etc.

**Demographic variables –**

The dependent variable is the study knowledge level regarding reproductive tract infection among nurses.

**SAMPLE SIZE** The sample used for the study is 40 female staff nurses working in Bombay Hospital Indore.

**SETTING** - this study was conducted at Bombay Hospital, Indore.

**SAMPLING TECHNIQUE** - Convenience Sampling technique was used to selected 40 female staff nurses as sample.

**SAMPLE SELECTION CRITERIA**

**Inclusion Criteria -**

- Staff nurses who are willing to participate in the study.
- Staff nurses who are available in Bombay Hospital.

**Exclusion criteria –**

- Nurses who are working outside the Bombay Hospital.
- Nurses who are not willing to participate or available at the time of study.

**PROCEDURE FOR DATA COLLECTION**

Study had been conducted in Bombay Hospital, College of Nursing Authority. A total of 40 samples from staff nurses working in Bombay Hospital were selected. data was collected confidently by the admission of tools. In this study the investigator developed a strategy to assess the knowledge of the staff nurses regarding he knowledge of reproductive tract infection by preparing a structured questionnaire. This precedes data collection and analysis by descriptive & inferential statistics.

**DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

**Section I:** Description of staff nurses according to their demographic characteristics.

Percentage wise distribution of staff nurses according to their variables.

**4.1 Description of staff nurses according to their demographic characteristics.**

**SECTION: 1**

**4.1 Description of staff nurses according to their demographic characteristics.**

**Table No: 2 Frequency & Percentage Distribution of Sample Characteristics**

SL.NO:	Sample Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
1	<b>Age in years</b>	19	47.5%
	• 21-23years	13	32.5%
	• 24-26years	5	12.5%
	• 27-29years	3	3%
	• 30 & above		
2	<b>Marital Status</b>	7	17.55%
	• Married	33	82.5%
3	<b>Education</b>	16	40%
	• GNM	21	52.5%
	• B.Sc	3	7.5%
4	<b>Year of Experience</b>	11	27.5%
	• <1 year	11	27.5%
	• 1 year	8	20%
	• 2 year	10	20%
5	<b>Working Area</b>	19	47.5%
	• Ward	10	25%
	• ICU	11	27.5%
	• OT		

**Section II - 4.2 assessment of knowledge regarding reproductive tract infection among staff nurse**

This section deals with assessment of knowledge scores of knowledge of staff nurses regarding reproductive tract infection in Bombay Hospital Indore. The statistical value of means, mean, score percentage and standard deviation are use to describe the scores. In addition the level of knowledge scores is assessed categorically as poor, average, good and very good.

**Table No:3 General assessment of knowledge of staff nurses n=40**

Level of knowledge	Knowledge score	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	1-5	0	0
Average	6-10	5	12.5%
Good	11-15	24	60%
Very good	16-20	11	27.5%

Table shows that 11 (27.5%) of study participants were having very good knowledge, 24 (60%) were having good knowledge, & 5 (12.5%) were having average knowledge. The minimum score was 8 and the maximum score was 20.

**SECTION III**

**4.3 Association of knowledge score in relation to demographic variables.**

This section deals with the association of knowledge scores with demographic variables of the study participants. One-way ANOVA and 't' test are used for within group comparisons categorically. For variables having more than two categories. One-way ANOVA was used and for variables having two categories 't' test was used.

**Table No:4 Association of knowledge on Reproductive tract infection in relation to age.**

Age (years)	Frequency	Mean Knowledge score	f- value
21-23years	19	12.3	13.20
24-26years	13	14.3	
27-29years	5	17.4	
30 & above	3	19	

Table no.4 shows that association of knowledge with age of study participants. The calculated value of 'F' (one-way ANOVA) value was 13.20 & tabulated 'f' value is 2.84 that is less than the calculated value. Hence it was interpreted that age of the study participants was associated with their knowledge scores.

**Table No: 5 Association of knowledge on Reproductive tract infection in relation to marital status.**

Marital status	No. of staff nurses	Mean knowledge score	t-value
Married	7	17.7	3.15
Unmarried	33	13.30	

Table shows that association of knowledge with marital status of study participants. The calculated value of 't' (paired t test) value was 3.5 & tabulated t value is 2.02 that is less than the calculated t value. Hence it was interpreted that marital status of the study participants was associated with their knowledge scores.

**Table No: 6 Association of knowledge on Reproductive tract infection in relation education.**

Professional qualification	No. of staff nurses	Mean knowledge score	f-value
GNM	16	13.8	1.56
B.Sc	21	13.8	
Post B.Sc	3	17	

Table shows that association of knowledge with educational level of study participants. The calculated value of 'F' (one way ANNOVA) value was 1.56 & tabulated f value is 3.23 that is greater than the calculated f value. Hence it was interpreted that educational level of the study participants was not associated with their knowledge scores.

**Table No:7 Association of knowledge on Reproductive tract infection in relation to year of experience.**

Year of experience	No. of staff nurses	Mean knowledge score	f-value
<1 year	11	12.9	12.8
1 year	11	12.5	
2 year	8	14.6	
>2 year	10	17.5	

Table shows that association of knowledge with year of experience of study participants. The calculated value of 'F' (one way ANNOVA) value was 12.8 & tabulated f value is 2.84 that is less than the calculated f value. Hence it was interpreted that year of experience of the study participants was associated with their knowledge scores

**Table No: 8 Association of knowledge on Reproductive tract infection in relation to working area**

Working Area	No. of staff nurses	Mean knowledge score	f- value
Ward	19	14.7	0.84
ICU	10	13.5	
OT	11	13.5	

Table shows that association of knowledge with working area of study participants. The calculated value of 'F' (one way ANNOVA) value was 0.84 & tabulated f value is 3.23 that is greater than the calculated value Hence it was interpreted that working area of the study participants was not associated with their knowledge scores. Infection in Bombay Hospital, Indore.

**Summary**

The main study was to assess the knowledge level among staff nurses and find its association with selected demographic variables. After detailed analysis and experience of the investigator, the finding revealed the following results.

- Mean score of knowledge level among staff nurses were 14.1
- Majority of staff nurse, working in Bombay Hospital, Indore has good knowledge.
- There was significant association of knowledge scores with selected demographic variables.

The overall experience of conducting the study was enjoyable. The response of the participant to the study was an encouraging hand for the investigators. The constant help & support of the guide & co-guide provided a positive re-enforcement for successful completion of the study. The study was a new learning experience for the investigators.

**CONCLUSION**

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- Majority of staff nurse, working in Bombay Hospital, Indore has good knowledge.
- There was significant association of knowledge scores with selected demographic variables.

**IMPLICATION**

The study findings revealed that the study helps to identify the problems & the knowledge level among staff nurses working in Bombay Hospital. The study had revealed certain implication on nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.

**NURSING EDUCATION:** Knowledge on reproductive tract infection should be given special focus in nursing education. The nurses should be given opportunity to organize & conduct health education programme The study had revealed certain implication on nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.

**NURSING ADMINISTRATIONS:** Nurse Administrator should take an initiative in providing continuous education to the staff nurses working in their hospital. Health administrator should assign the staff nurses to conduct planned teaching programme in hospital.

**NURSING RESEARCH:** There is a need for extended & intensive nursing research in the area of critical care. Extensive research is need in the area to assess knowledge of Reproductive tract infection, so that other complications can be prevented.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

From the findings of the study the following recommendations are

suggested:

- A similar study can be replicated on a large sample.
- Planned teaching programme can be conducted to improve the knowledge of staff nurses.
- Similar study can be conducted to assess the attitude & practice of the staff nurses regarding Reproductive tract infection.

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