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A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING NEONATAL SEPSIS AND ITS MANAGEMENT AMONG NURSING STUDENTS AT SELECTED COLLEGES OF MYSORE

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ABSTRACT

Neonatal sepsis is a blood infection that can be caused by a number of different bacteria, including Escherichia coli, Listeria, and certain strains of Streptococcus. Group B Streptococcus, GBS is the most common cause of neonatal sepsis in many countries. Early onset neonatal sepsis is seen within the first seven days of life and most often appears within 24 hours of birth where the baby is infected from the mother before or during the delivery. The chances of survival are reduced for new born with a serious infection regardless of whether they are hospitalized or in the community. Therefore, the complications of neonatal sepsis may be death or lifelong disability. Identifying and diagnosing neonatal sepsis is difficult because sick often present with non-specific sign and symptom that vary from changes in body temperature, breathing problem, diarrhoea, low blood sugar, seizure, bradycardia and jaundice.

KEYWORDS: Neonatal sepsis, knowledge, management, nursing students.

INTRODUCTION

Children constitute the foundation of a nation. Healthy new born evolve become healthy adults and effectively participate in national development programs. The child's health while in the womb depends on the health of the mother. But after being born its survival, health and growth depends not only its own health but also on the mother knowledge about child rearing practices and the immediate environment in which the family lives. From birth to first 28 days of life is called neonate. Early neonatal period refers to first 7 days of life.While late neonatal period signifies the period from more than 7 days to 28 days of life. Neonatal infection refers to the bacterial infection of the infants during the first month of life and it may be acquired by trans-placental (congenital infection) during the process of delivery or postnatal from the mother or from the environment of the baby. The common infection that can occur in a new born baby during the neonatal period can be infections of the eye, skin and umbilicus, respiratory and gastro intestinal tract. Low birth weight or prematurity has been reported as the important risk factor for neonatal sepsis. Sepsis is a major cause of fatality during the first month of life contributing to 13-15% of all neonatal deaths. Neonatal meningitis a serious morbidity of neonatal sepsis, occurs in 2-4 cases per 10,000 live birth and significantly contribute to the mortality rate in neonatal sepsis; it is responsible for 4% all neonatal deaths. In the preterm infant inflammatory mediators associated with neonatal sepsis may contribute to brain injury and poor neurodevelopment outcomes.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its management among nursing students.
2. To determine the association between the knowledge of nursing students regarding neonatal sepsis and its management with their selected personal variables.

HYPOTHESIS

H1: There will be significant association between the knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its management among nursing students with their selected variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its managements among nursing students at selected college of Mysuru. Samples were selected by purposive sampling technique. 60 samples were selected in the study. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyse the data.

RESULTS

Table I: Frequency and percentage distribution of selected personal variables of nursing students.

Sl no	Sample characteristics	Frequency(f)	Percentage (%)
1.	Age (in years) 1.1.20-22	 60	 100%
2.	Gender 2.1. Male 2.2. Female	 4 56	 6.67% 93.3%
3.	Year of Studying 3.1. 3 rd year	 60	 100%
4.	Have you ever posted in NICU 4.1. Yes 4.2. No	 45 15	 75% 25%
5.	Source of Information 5.1. Electronic media 5.2. Friends 5.3. Health person 5.4. Family or relatives	 20 07 27 06	 33.3% 11.6% 45% 10%

n=60.

Table: 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of nursing students according to their level of knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its management.

Knowledge level	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Poor	15	25
Average	25	41.66
Good	20	33.33

n= 60.

Table 2 shows that majority of nursing students 25 (41.66%) had average knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its management. 20(33.33%) had good knowledge and 15 (25%) had poor knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its management.

Table 3: Mean, Median, Range and Standard deviation of knowledge score of nursing students regarding neonatal sepsis and its management.

Variable	Mean	Median	Range	Standard deviation
Knowledge	17.9	20	14-21	±2.65

The data presented in Table 3 shows that the mean knowledge score of nursing students is 17.9, ranged 14-21 with standard deviation of ± 2.65 and the median 20.

Table 4: Chi-Square between level of knowledge of nursing students with their selected personal variables.

Sl no	Sample characteristics	Poor and average knowledge	Good knowledge	Chi-square
1.	Age (in years) 1.1.20-22	40	20	0.21
2.	Gender 2.1. Male 2.2. Female	 2 33	 2 23	 1.63#
3.	Year of Studying 3.1. 3 rd year	60	100%	
4.	Have you ever posted in NICU 4.1. Yes 4.2. No	 38 8	 15 7	 0.859
5.	Source of Information 5.1. Electronic media 5.2. Friends 5.3. Health person 5.4. Family or relatives	 9 4 12 5	 11 2 15 2	 1.50#

n= 60

x^2 (1) =3.84; (p>0.05),p>0.05✖ -significant # Yates correction

The Data presented in Table 4 shows that there was no statistically significant association between the level of knowledge of nursing students regarding neonatal sepsis and its management with their selected personal variables. Hence, the null hypothesis is accepted and it is inferred that their will be no significant association between the level of knowledge of nursing students and their selected personal variables.

CONCLUSION

A descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge regarding neonatal sepsis and its management among nursing students in selected college of Mysore. Data was collected from 60 nursing students by using structured knowledge questionnaire. Collected data was analysed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Majority of nursing students 100% were in the age group of 20-22 years. Majority 93.33% of the nursing students were female and 6.67% were male. Majority of nursing students 100% were in the 3rd year batch. Majority 75% of the nursing students were posted in NICU and 25% of the students were not posted in NICU. Majority 45% of nursing students got their information through health personnel, 33.3% from electronic mass media, 11.6% from friends and 10% from family members.

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