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Research Article

IMPLEMENTATION AND FACTORS AFFECTING THE NURSING PROCESS AMONG NURSES WORKING IN SELECTED GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS IN PAKISTAN

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Abstract:

Introduction: The nursing process is a structured and systematic process of providing goal-oriented and humanistic nursing care that is both efficient and effective. **Objectives:** The main objective of the study is to find the Implementation and factors affecting the nursing process among nurses working in selected government hospitals in Pakistan. **Material and methods:** This descriptive study was conducted in Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore during 2020. This study was conducted in selected government hospitals of Pakistan. Data was collected using self-administered questionnaires that were adapted and modified from various studies and had three parts. **Results:** The data was collected from 100 participants. The participants' mean age was 32.49 years (SD 8.17) and 157 (96.9%) of them were female. The mean duration of participants' work experience was 8 years and 5 months. Of the total number of participants in the study, 50 (50.6%) nurses had experienced inpatient falls and 78 (78.4%) nurses had participated in educational programs on fall prevention. **Conclusion:** It is concluded that nurses generally possess an inadequate level of knowledge pertaining to ulcer care despite a positive attitude. Nurses' attitudes regarding falls were positively correlated with their engagement in fall-prevention activities, but their knowledge regarding falls was not.

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INTRODUCTION:

The nursing process is a structured and systematic process of providing goal-oriented and humanistic nursing care that is both efficient and effective. It is a standard for the provision of individualized, ongoing nursing care through standardized nursing language. It helps improve the relationship of nurses with patients, uses available resources for patient care, and creates good communication between practicing nurses and nursing practice requires an efficient use of the nursing process and engages nurses in activities that enhance knowledge of the nursing process. Effective implementation of the nursing process improves quality of care and promotes the development of knowledge based on clinical practice [1].

The nursing process is coherent with the perspective of measuring results by benchmarking and prototyping, and encourages uniformity in practice [2]. Implementing the nursing process is key to the core of professional nursing practice and allows nurses to deliver quality nursing care within a systematic goal-directed framework. Nursing process used in clinical practice worldwide to deliver quality individualized care to patients and lack of its application can reduce the quality of care [3]. Nursing Process is a systematic problem-solving approach used to identify, prevent and treat actual or potential health problems and promote wellness. It has five steps- assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Applying nursing process requires understanding of factors affecting its implementation from the perspective of nurses [4]. Nursing process implementation could be highly influenced by different factors that can lead to poor quality of nursing care, disorganization of the service, conflicting roles, medication error, poor diseases prognosis, readmission, dissatisfaction with the care provided, and increased mortality. These problems are manageable if a nurse can properly implement nursing process [5].

There is a demand to implement the nursing process in practical care in every health institution, in hospitals as well as in the community as a whole, but the perception remains that it is time-consuming and impractical. If the nursing process is not valued and not used, nurses may continue to intervene on the basis

of a medical diagnosis rather than on the basis of a rational nursing assessment, planning, evaluation, record keeping and feedback. In any of the steps, oversight or omission can result in less-than-optimal nursing care [6].

Objectives

The main objective of the study is to find the Implementation and factors affecting the nursing process among nurses working in selected government hospitals in Pakistan.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

This descriptive study was conducted in Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore during 2020. This study was conducted in selected government hospitals of Pakistan. Data was collected using self-administered questionnaires that were adapted and modified from various studies and had three parts: sociodemographic issues, nursing process implementation, and factors affecting the nursing process. To ensure the validity of tool, the questionnaire was presented to three nursing expert, checked it for double, confusing and leading questions, tool validity determined using content validity and also the instrument was pre-tested before final data collection. Cronbach's alpha coefficient for nursing process implementation scale was 0.73. The tools included open as well as close-ended questions prepared in English.

The data was collected and analysed using SPSS version 19. All the values were expressed in mean and standard deviation.

RESULTS:

The data was collected from 100 participants. The participants' mean age was 32.49 years (SD 8.17) and 157 (96.9%) of them were female. The mean duration of participants' work experience was 8 years and 5 months. Of the total number of participants in the study, 50 (50.6%) nurses had experienced inpatient falls and 78 (78.4%) nurses had participated in educational programs on fall prevention. Nurses' experience with patient falls differed significantly depending on their experience. Nurses who had experience with patient falls had significantly higher levels of knowledge regarding falls than those who had no such experience.

Table 01: Analysis of knowledge and attitude regarding falls in selected participants

Rank	Item	Attitude regarding falls	Mean	SD
1	10	I think I should respond promptly when patients ask for help to move.	4.36	0.58
2	11	I think that patients' fall risk should be assessed upon admission.	4.57	0.57
3	17	I think I should actively nurse patients to prevent falls	4.21	0.34
4	12	I am interested in the occurrence of inpatient falls.	3.98	0.21
5	25	I think that fall prevention is a high priority in nursing.	5.1	0.11
6	12	I am interested in nursing interventions to prevent falls.	3.76	0.45
7	13	I think that inpatient falls are inevitable.	3.43	0.36

DISCUSSION:

An extensive literature search on diabetic foot ulcers revealed that there is a paucity of local and global data focusing on knowledge of healthcare workers and their attitudes [7]. A study conducted in a Sri Lankan clinical setting coincides with our observation. Our data revealed a large gender gap, with females constituting a predominant portion of the interviewed workforce [8]. This pattern of gender disparity has been observed in multiple nursing studies worldwide. Furthermore, approximately 53% of the nurses were older than 30 years of age. An aging workforce, while more experienced, is also more prone to develop various disorders due to intense workload. Our data indicate that although 46.8% of the nurses possessed wound care experience of more than 5 years, not even 1% of the sample population had received formal wound care training [9]. A similar finding was reported by a Swedish study where nurses lacked comprehensive wound care training despite a decade of professional experience. A study in Ethiopia revealed that 91.1% of participants lacked any wound care training. This is a worrisome finding because a lack of training can serve as a potential barrier for nurses to translate their pre-existing knowledge on ulcer care into practice. In accordance with the Macdonald's standard of learning outcomes, only 54% of the participants were adequately knowledgeable [10].

CONCLUSION:

It is concluded that nurses generally possess an inadequate level of knowledge pertaining to ulcer care despite a positive attitude. Nurses' attitudes regarding falls were positively correlated with their engagement in fall-prevention activities, but their knowledge regarding falls was not.

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