

A Study To Assess The Effectiveness Of Structured Teaching Programme On Knowledge Regarding Legal And Ethical Aspects In Psychiatric Nursing Among Staff Nurses At Selected Hospitals At Jaipur

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DOI: 10.47750/pnr.2022.13.509.1318

Abstract

Background: Psychiatric nursing is a specialized field that involves caring for individuals with mental health disorders. Nurses working in psychiatric settings encounter various legal and ethical challenges while providing care to patients. Ensuring that staff nurses possess adequate knowledge of legal and ethical aspects is essential to deliver safe and effective psychiatric nursing care.

Objective: The main objective of this study is to assess the effectiveness of a structured teaching programme on improving the knowledge of staff nurses regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric nursing.

Methods: A quasi-experimental design with pre-test and post-test assessments will be employed in this study. A convenient sample of staff nurses working in selected hospitals in Jaipur will be recruited for the study. Prior to the structured teaching programme, a pre-test will be conducted to assess the baseline knowledge of the participants regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric nursing. Following the teaching programme, a post-test will be administered to evaluate the improvement in knowledge. The structured teaching programme will be developed based on the identified areas of legal and ethical concerns in psychiatric nursing.

Results: The data collected from pre-test and post-test assessments will be analyzed using appropriate statistical methods to determine the effectiveness of the structured teaching programme. Descriptive statistics and inferential statistics, such as paired t-test, will be used to compare the knowledge scores before and after the intervention.

Conclusion: The findings of this study will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of the structured teaching programme in enhancing the knowledge of staff nurses regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric nursing. The results will contribute to the development of evidence-based educational interventions aimed at improving the quality of psychiatric nursing care and ensuring adherence to legal and ethical standards in clinical practice. The study's implications may also guide nursing educators and policymakers in designing comprehensive training programs for psychiatric nursing staff to meet the growing challenges in mental healthcare delivery.

Keywords: Effectiveness, Structured teaching programme, Legal and ethical aspects, Psychiatric nursing, Staff nurses

INTRODUCTION

Nursing is defined as providing care to the healthy or sick individuals for preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative needs. The consumers are patients with complex needs. With increased awareness of health care, health care facilities and Consumer Protection Act, patients/clients are getting awareness about their rights. Nurses also have now the expanded role, with the result the legal responsibility is increased. Hence, it is important for nursing personnel working in hospital, community and educational field to develop understanding of Legal and Ethical Issues of Nursing.

The role of the nurse and professional nursing has expanded rapidly with in past ten years to include expertise specialization, autonomy and accountability, both from legal and ethical perspective, this expansion has forced a new concern among nurses and

a highest awareness of interaction of legal and ethical principles. Ethics is the science relating to moral actions and one's value system. Many nurses envision ethics are dealing with principles or morality and what is right or wrong. Ethics are concern with motives and attitudes and the relationships of these attitudes for the individuals.

Nurses are one of the largest groups of professionals working in the health care system. Their presence in the health care system plays a very important role and helps in the speedy recovery from the illnesses. A psychiatric nurse play a very important role from the time of admission to discharge in which orientation, meeting all type of needs especially biological and emotional needs, explaining rights to patient, maintaining confidentiality, taking informed consent and following so many roles when patient goes to parole, all come under legal responsibilities of a psychiatric nurse.

Safe nursing practice includes an understanding of the legal boundaries within which nurses must function. As with all aspects of nursing today an understanding of the implications of the law supports critical thinking on the nurse's part. Nurses must understand the law to protect them from liability and to protect their clients' rights. Nurses need not fear the law be rather should view the information that follows as the foundation for understanding what is expected by our society from professional nursing care providers. The laws in our society are fluid and constantly changing to meet the needs of the person's the laws are intended to protect. A sheath care evolves in our society, so, too, the legal implications for health care evolve. Frequently, nurses function under several sources and jurisdictions of health law simultaneously. Nurses' familiarity with the laws enhances their ability to be client advocates.

Legislation forms an important component in the implementation of mental healthcare. Legislation is an expression of society with regard to the way it views and cares for mentally ill individuals. Legal responsibility in nursing practice means the way in which nurses are obligated to obey the law in professional activities. It is always better that all nurses should understand the legal responsibility. When assuming a position to take care of a client, as a professional nurse needs to update with the fast changing and advancing professional knowledge to provide safe nursing to their consumer on the basis of their need.

Hence mental health professionals should have a better understanding to the medico-legal aspects of mental health. The mental health professional should know the following basic forensic psychiatry

1. Crime and psychiatric disorders.
2. Criminal responsibility.
3. Civil responsibility.
4. Laws relating to psychiatric disorders.
5. Admission and discharge procedures of patients in a psychiatric hospital.
6. Civil rights of the patient

NEED FOR THE STUDY

The legal and ethical issues in psychiatric mental health nursing includes aspects related to individuals privacy, confidentiality of client's records and communications, informed consent, restrains and seclusion, commitment issues, nursing liability, malpractice and negligence.

About 2-5% of India's population suffers some form of mental or behavioral disorder. Around 1% has a serious form of mental disorder requiring urgent care at any point of time. No less than 10-15% of those attending general health facilities have a common mental disorder. National Institute of Mental Health (1994) revealed that 40% to 60% of the population received care from family. Human right is so important issue in psychiatric field recognizing the basic needs of an individual. The nurses must know the rights of mentally ill person; and support them in liberty, treatment needs and applicable requirements.

People with mental illness are more likely to be convicted of crime than without a mental illness. In one study women with at least one psychiatric admission were 3.08 to 11.27 times more likely to be convicted of crime and men were 2.29 to 11.27 times more likely to convicted than their non-mentally ill counterpart Prisoner have three times the prevalence of mental illness than the general population.

According to NIMHANS, there are about 5 crore people in our country who are affected by common mental disorder and over 2 crore persons who are need of treatment of serious mental disorders. About 30 to 35 lakh of persons need hospitalization at any time for mental illness. In contrast there are about 29,000 beds available. This huge treatment gap, with 50-90% people not able to access services, is a serious human rights issue.

OBJECTIVES

1. To asses level of knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric nursing among staff nurse before administration of structured teaching programme
2. To evaluate the effectiveness of Structured Teaching Programme regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care among staff nurses by comparing the pre test and post test knowledge score.

- To find out association between knowledge level regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care among staff nurses with their selected socio demographic variables

HYPOTHESES

H₁: There was a significant difference between the mean pre test and post test knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care among staff nurses.

- H₂:** There was a significant association between the pre test knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care among staff nurses with their selected socio demographic variables

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Suresh k Sharma, Veenet kaur, Tamanpreet kaur (2019) was conducted a descriptive study in District Mental Health Centre & Hospital and Community Mental Health Centre & Hospital Ludhiana and Amritsar among 52 staff nurses to assess the awareness of human rights of mentally ill. The study concluded that the mean awareness score of the subjects regarding the human rights of mentally ill was 21.34 ± 04.07 with mean percentage 71.13%. The maximum of the subjects (61.54%) had good level of awareness, whereas more than one third (36.54%) belonged to average level and only one subject (01.92%) had poor level of awareness.

Kantio R., Valimaki M ET AL, (2019) was conducted a qualitative study to assess the nurses and physicians educational needs in seclusion and restrain practices among 22 nurses and 5 psychiatrists. The results showed that the participants recognized a need for on-ward and problem based education and infrastructural and managerial support and concluded that future educational programs should bring together written clinical guidelines, education on ethical and legal issues, and the staffs support.

Vijayarani M (2019) was conducted an explorative Survey among 30 nurses working in selected ayurveda medical college and Hospital, Bangalore to assess the knowledge regarding rights of mentally ill. The study revealed that majority of participants i.e., 25(83.3%) were not aware of rights of mentally ill persons and only 2(6.7%) of them are having highly adequate knowledge. An awareness programme was conducted to improve the existing level of knowledge.

Snehajose (2018) was conducted a true experimental study to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching program on knowledge on legal implications and attitude towards duty and legal responsibility of 60 staff nurses working in psychiatric wards in NIMHANS, Bangalore. The study finding revealed that the experimental groups gain on the knowledge on legal implications and attitude towards duty and legal liability was statistically significant at $p < 0.001$. And the researcher concluded stating that Structured Teaching Program was useful in increasing knowledge of staff nurse on legal implications and attitude towards duty and legal liability.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research approach: Evaluative research approach was used.

Research design: Pre experimental one group pre test post test research design was used for present study.

Setting of the study: Liberty Hospital, Jaipur, Shiv Gauttam Hospital, Jaipur

Population: Staff Nurses working in Liberty Hospital, Jaipur, Shiv Gauttam Hospital, Jaipur

Sample and sample size: Sample consist a total number of 120 staff nurses who were working in Liberty Hospital, Jaipur, Shiv Gauttam Hospital, Jaipur

Sampling technique: Purposive Sampling technique was used for the present study.

Study variables:

Independent variable: Structured teaching programme.

Dependent variable: Knowledge Levels of the staff nurses

Extraneous variables: age, gender, professional qualification, clinical experience, religion and previous knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care.

Inclusion criteria

- Staff nurses working in selected hospital, Jaipur
- Staff nurses who are willing to participate in the study
- Staff nurses who are available at the time of data collection.

Exclusion criteria

- Staff nurses who are not willing to participate in the study
- Staff nurses who are not available at the time of data collection

Data collection instruments & techniques:

Section A – Demographic variable: The characteristics included age, gender, professional qualification, clinical experience, religion and previous knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care.

Section B – Structured Questionnaire: It consisted of 30 items divided into 2 sections. They are: - Questionnaire related to legal aspects, and Questionnaire related to ethical aspects, all the items were multiple choice questions, which had 4 alternative responses.

Data collection procedure:

The plan of data collection for the proposed study is as follows:

Written permission was taken from the hospital authority for conducting study. The data was collected from 10/7/2022 to 10/08/2022. The investigator established well the study was explained to the subjects. A structured questionnaire was administered to the subjects to collect support with the staff nurses who were working in Liberty Hospital Jaipur and Shiv Gauttam Hospital Jaipur the purpose of the base line data. Socio demographic data from the staff nurses collected. Data was collected and analyzed for 120 staff nurse. After pre-test, STP on legal and ethical aspects in psychiatric care was given to the staff nurses. Evaluation of the STP was done by conducting post-test, 7 days after the implementation of STP.

RESULTS

Table 1 Percentage distribution of overall knowledge level

N=120

S. No.	Level of knowledge	Pre – test		Post – test	
		frequency	Percentage	frequency	Percentage
1	poor	26	21.66%	0	00%
2	Average	80	66.67%	100	83.33%
3	Good	14	11.66%	20	16.66%

The level of knowledge was classified in three aspects includes poor (0-35%), average (35-70%), good (70-above).The data of table no. 1 shows that in pre–test majority of the subjects 66.67% (80) had average knowledge and 11.66% (14) subjects had good knowledge and 21.67% (26) had poor knowledge about the topic, Data present above: reveals that in the assessment of post test knowledge of staff nurse, majority 83.33% (100) of subject had average knowledge while 16.67% (20) of them had good knowledge about the topic and none were found to be poor in knowledge.

Table no. 2 shows Mean, mean% and standard deviation of pre-test knowledge scores

S. No.	Area	Maximum score	Mean score	Mean %	S.D.
1	Related to legal aspects	15	5.31	35.4%	3.56
2	Related to ethical aspects	15	4.44	29.6%	1.03
Total		30	12.17	40.56	6.61

Table no. 2 depicted area wise mean, mean %, standard deviation and overall score in pre- test knowledge scores of staff nurses comprising of Two sections of knowledge on legal and ethical aspects , the first section involve legal aspects data shows that maximum score allotted for this section was 15 and mean score, mean% and SD were consequently 5.31, 35.4%, and 2.56. In section 2 ethical aspects the maximum score allotted was 15 and mean score, mean%, and SD were 4.44, 29.6% and 1.03 respectively. Finally overall maximum score was of 30 and overall mean score, mean%, and SD were 12.17, 40.56% and 6.61 consequently.

Table no. 3 shows Mean, mean% and standard deviation of post-test knowledge scores

S. No.	Area	Maximum score	Mean score	Mean %	S.D.
1	Related to legal aspects	15	9.6	64%	4.03
2	Related to ethical aspects	15	9.79	65.26%	3.27
Total		30	18.26	60.86	6.3

Table no. 3 depicted area wise mean, mean %, standard deviation and overall score in post- test knowledge scores of staff nurses comprising of two sections of knowledge on legal and ethical aspects, the first section involves legal aspects data shows that maximum score allotted for this section was 15 and mean score, mean% and SD were consequently 9.6, 64%, and 4.03. In section 2 ethical aspects the maximum score allotted was 15 and mean score, mean %, and SD were, 9.79, 65.26% and 3.27 respectively. Finally overall maximum score was of 30 and overall mean score, mean%, and SD were 18.26, 60.86% and 6.3 consequently

Table 4 Area wise effectiveness of STP

N=120

S. No.	Area	Maximum score	Pre-test(x)			Post-test(y)			Effectiveness (y-x)
			Mean score	Mean %	S.D.	Mean score	Mean %	S.D.	Mean score
1	Related to legal aspects	15	7.53	50.2	5.78	8.5	56.66	5.03	0.97
2	Related to ethical aspects	15	6.66	44.4	3.05	8.68	57.86	2.27	2.02
Total		30	14.19	47.3	8.83	17.15	57.16	7.3	2.99

Overall results show that the mean percentage of post-test knowledge scores was higher than the mean percentage of pre-test knowledge scores, as shown in Table No. 3. The impact of STP was seen across all domains, demonstrating that it was successful in raising staff nurses' awareness of legal and ethical issues.

CONCLUSION

Mothers of under five children's are having decreased level of knowledge, regarding waterborne diseases, its causes, and its preventive measures and also they don't know the effective way of maintaining their water hygiene and practices regarding good toileting and environmental sanitation. This study shows a significant knowledge gain among the mothers of under five children regarding water borne diseases.

Financial support: Nil

Conflicts of interests: No conflicts of interests.

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