INTRODUCTION

Children are young human beings. As human beings children have a certain moral status. There are things that should not be done to them for the simple reason that they are human. At the same time children are different from adult human beings.

A 2006 follow-up by the Institute of Medicine study found that medication errors are among the most common medical mistakes, harming at least 1.5 million people every year. The study was conducted to legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of the children, and the results revealed that more than 10% of nurses had inadequate knowledge.

The purpose of a design is to achieve greater control and thus improve the validity of the study in examining the research problems. The investigator selected Non Experimental research design for the study.

Study Setting

Location for conducting the research is referred to as setting of the study. Based on the investigators familiarity with the settings and availability of the samples. The present study was conducted at selected karpaga vinayaga institute of medical science and research centre.

Population

The population of the present study comprised of staff nurses working in at selected karpaga vinayaga institute of medical science and research centre.

Sample and Sample Size

Small portion of a population for observation and analysis is referred to as a sample. In this study, 100 staff nurses from selected hospital karpaga vinayaga institute of medical science and research centre

Criteria for Selecting the Sample

Inclusion Criteria:

The staff nurses

Exclusion Criteria:

Who are not willing to participate in the study

Who are not available during the data collection period

Staff nurses with ANM and M.Sc nursing qualification


Abstract

Background of the study: Children are young human beings. As human beings children have a certain moral status. There are things that should not be done to them for the simple reason that they are human. At the same time children are different from adult human beings. Methods: A descriptive research design. The investigator selected Non Experimental research design for the study. The present study was conducted at selected karpaga vinayaga institute of medical science and research centre. The population of the present study comprised of staff nurses working in at selected hospital.

Sampling Technique

Sampling refers to the process of selecting a small portion of a population for observation and analysis. In this study, 100 staff nurses were selected using a non probability convenient sampling technique. The study results revealed that the frequency and percentage distribution of samples based on level of knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children, of all 100 samples 80 (80%) of samples have adequate knowledge, 12 (12%) of samples have moderate knowledge and only 08(8%) of the samples have inadequate knowledge.

Research Design

- “The research design is the overall plan for obtaining answers to the research questions or for testing research hypothesis”
- A descriptive research design is adopted for the present study.

The study results revealed that the frequency and percentage distribution of samples based on level of knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children, of all 100 samples 80 (80%) of samples have adequate knowledge, 12 (12%) of samples have moderate knowledge and only 08(8%) of the samples have inadequate knowledge.

Inclusion Criteria:

Who are working in hospital
- Who are willing to participate in the study
- Who are present during the data collection
- Staff nurses who are qualified with either diploma or bachelor of nursing

Exclusion Criteria:

Who are not willing to participate in the study
- Who are not available during the data collection period
- Staff nurses with ANM and M.Sc nursing qualification

Keywords: Knowledge, legal and ethical, children, nursing care

INTRODUCTION

Children are young human beings. As human beings children have a certain moral status. There are things that should not be done to them for the simple reason that they are human. At the same time children are different from adult human beings.

Today’s health care delivery system is more dynamic and role of nurses has expanded rapidly, which expects specialization, autonomy and accountability from both ethical & legal perspective. This expansion has focused new concerns among nurse’s especially pediatric nurses to have heightened awareness of legal and ethical issues.

Nursing of a hospitalized child is different from that of an adult. The child lacks decisional power and there are more chances for the nurse to face more ethical and legal problems. So the nurse needs to be more alert to prevent issues and dilemmas which she encounters mainly in areas like ICU’s.

According to 2006 National Medical Malpractice Statistics reveal that nearly 225,000 individuals die each year in the U.S. as a result of medical malpractice, which is currently the third leading cause of death in the country.

A 2006 follow-up by the Institute Of Medicine study found that medication errors are among the most common medical mistakes, harming at least 1.5 million people every year. The study was conducted to legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of the children adopted non experimental descriptive co relational design with 50 samples of nurses working in pediatric ward by convenient sampling. Findings reveal that 10%, 64% and 26% nurses had inadequate, moderate and adequate knowledge.
Table 11: Knowledge Regarding Legal and Ethical Concepts in Nursing Care of Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No</th>
<th>Maximum Possible Score</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Mean S.C %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section-A</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8.66</td>
<td>1.464</td>
<td>13-5</td>
<td>57.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section-B</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>10-4</td>
<td>57.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section C</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8.54</td>
<td>1.329</td>
<td>11-6</td>
<td>56.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>23.85</td>
<td>2.272</td>
<td>30-18</td>
<td>56.78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows the level of knowledge of the subjects with regard to Legal and Ethical Concepts in Nursing Care Of Children. As per the table the staff nurses knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts is; mean 8.66, standard deviation 1.464 and mean percentage score 57.73% where maximum possible score was 15. Considering legal and ethical concepts; the mean is 6.9, standard deviation 1.3, and mean percentage score 57.75% where the maximum possible score was 12. Considering the section c mean is 8.54, standard deviation 1.329, and mean % score is 56.93% where maximum score was 15. The overall score displayed mean 23.85, SD of 2.272, and a mean score percentage of 23.85% where the maximum possible score was 42.

Knowledge Regarding Legal and Ethical Concepts in Nursing Care Of Children

Level of knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children. The results shows that, of all 100 samples 80 (80%) of samples have adequate knowledge, 12 (12%) of samples have moderate knowledge and only 08(8%) of the samples have inadequate knowledge.

Frequency and percentage distribution of samples based on level of knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S No</th>
<th>Level of Knowledge</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>76-100</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>50-75</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>Below 50</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The main aim of the study was to assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children and to provide information to them. Information was given to the staff nurses through an information booklet which included various aspects of legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children, elements of informed consent and confidentiality and measures to prevention of medico-legal issues and professional malpractice.

The implications are given on various aspects like Nursing practice, Nursing Education, Nursing Administration, and Nursing Research and also gives an insight to further studies. Conclusions derived from the findings were:

- Majority of the staff nurses, 80% had adequate knowledge

3. Recommendations

- The same study can be replicated on a large sample.
- A similar comparative study can be done between urban and rural areas.
- The study can be conducted in different settings.
- Study can be conducted on the knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children.
- A comparative study can be conducted among Medical and Non-medical college staff nurses to compare their knowledge regarding legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children.

CONCLUSION

This chapter dealt with the summary, various implications and limitations of the present study and also suggested that studies of this kind should be an ongoing process to determine and update the knowledge regarding the legal and ethical concepts in nursing care of children, which can bring out a drastic change in the lives of many children in the community and world.

REFERENCES
