Hamander Kumar
Principal Alwar College of
Nursing, Alwar, Rajasthan,
India

Dr. Yogesh Yadav
Guide & Supervisor,
Department of Nursing,
Maharaj Vinayak global
university, Jaipur, Rajasthan,
India

A study to develop and evaluate effectiveness of the informational booklet regarding legal responsibilities of nursing personnel in terms of knowledge at Rajiv Gandhi Govt. General Hospital Alwar, Rajasthan

Hamander Kumar and Dr. Yogesh Yadav

Abstract
A study was undertaken to evaluate the effectiveness of an information booklet on knowledge of the staff nurses regarding their legal responsibilities in Rajiv Gandhi Govt. General Hospital Alwar, Rajasthan.

Methodology: Evaluative approach used in this study. Major findings of the study with regard to demographic variables revealed that majority (42%) of the staff nurses belonged to the age group of 41-50 years, with regard to professional education, 92% & 08% of the staff nurses were having GNM nursing and BSc. Nursing respectively, majority (40%) had a working experience of above 21years.

Result: Regarding the mean pre-test knowledge score it was found to be mean 24.36 and S.D 3.92 against the maximum score of 50. The mean posttest knowledge score was found to mean 37.86 and S.D.3.13 against a maximum score of 50. Mean posttest knowledge scores (37.86) of staff nurses was found to be significantly higher than their mean pre-test knowledge scores (24.36), as evident from the 't'value of 22.43 suggesting that the knowledge of staff nurses on legal responsibilities increased after administering the information booklet.

Conclusion: On the basis of the findings of the study, it is recommended that similar study can be replicated on larger samples of staff nurses of different hospitals for generalization of the findings.

Keywords: knowledge, legal responsibilities, effectiveness, violation, innovation, standard.

Introduction
Nurses are the second largest group of professionals working in the health care system. They play a very important role in the care of patient in hospital. Medical care of patient in a hospital emanates from the joint efforts and team work of the hospital's nursing staffs and physician. The nursing staff and physician must work in concert and be knowledgeable of the facilities, equipment, and service that may be used in the treatment and care to the patient.

Nursing is an integral part of the health care system and nurses direct their energies towards the promotion, maintenance and restoration of health. The role of nurses has expanded rapidly within the past ten years to include expertise specialisation, autonomy and accountability. With the advent of consumer protection Act of 1986, all professional i.e. medical, architects, solicitors, charted accountant, nurses etc. have come within the purview of the Act. The impact of health care consumer movement has been to promote increased accountability on the part of all health professional including nurses

Today's nurse practitioners must be aware of nursing standards, legal issue, legal limit, legal abilities of nursing otherwise he/ she will be first person to be penalized from the legal standpoint

Objectives
This study endeavored to:
1. To develop an informational booklet regarding legal responsibilities of nursing personnel.
2. To assess the knowledge of nursing personnel before and after the administration of informational booklet on legal responsibilities.
3. To seek the relationship between knowledge of Nursing personnel with selected factors

Corresponding Author:
Hamander Kumar
Principal Alwar College of
Nursing, Alwar, Rajasthan,
India

like Age, Professional qualification, Clinical experience, In-service education.

Methodology

The research approach adopted for this study is an evaluative approach. The conceptual framework adopted for the present study is based on system model of self-learning material. The three phases of model are input, process and output, evaluation and feedback. It was modified to suit to the present study. The research design selected for this study belongs to the pre experimental design with one group pre-test and post-test design. The design carried out by non-probability convenient sampling with no control group. The present study was conducted in Rajiv Gandhi Govt. General Hospital Alwar, Rajasthan.

Table 1 - shows that schematic representation of the research design on knowledge test.

Group	Day 1		Day 7
	Pre-test	Treatment	Post-test
Nursing personnel working in medical, surgical, maternity units.	Knowledge test	Introduction of informational booklet regarding legal responsibilities of nurses	Knowledge test.

The selected setting was provided the required samples adequately, feasibility and accessibility of the samples. Selected 50 Nursing personnel from Rajiv Gandhi Govt. General Hospital Alwar Rajasthan who fulfilled the inclusion and exclusion criteria. The socio demographic profile and pre-test knowledge assessed by using the semi structured questionnaire regarding legal responsibilities of nurses was administered. Information booklet was given soon after pre-test. The nurses were eager to know and took active participation. Post-test was conducted after the 7th day by using the same semi structured questionnaire to find out the effectiveness of information booklet.

The tools used for data collection were
Part I socio-demographic data

Include 7 items on personal data such as age, professional education, clinical experience, present area of posting, short term courses, Registered in state nursing council member of TNAI

Part I knowledge questionnaire

Consist of 50 knowledge items. It had 25 true/false items and 25 multiple choice items. Each item has one correct response and score of '1' for correct answer and '0' for wrong answer. Total scores of questionnaire are 50.
The sample characteristics described by using the descriptive statistics such as mean, SD and Percentage. The effectiveness of Structured Teaching Program analyzed by using paired 't' test. The socio demographic variable associate with knowledge by using the chi-square test.

Result and discussion

Conclusions drawn from the study were as follows: demographic variables shows that among the samples, out of 50 nursing personnel, 20 (40%) of the samples were in the age group 21-30 years, followed by 9 (18%) were in the age group 31-40 years, 21(42%) were in the age group of 41-50 years. Among the samples, out of 50 nursing personnel Majority 46 (92%) of the sample's professional education was GNM only 4 (8%) were B.Sc Nursing and no M. Sc Nursing professional found. The data shows that out of 50 nursing personnel Majority 37 (74%) Nursing personnel have more than 10 years clinical experience. Nursing personnel who have less than 10 year clinical experience which are 13 (26%). out of 50 nursing personnel. Selection of nursing personnel from medical unit are 17 (34%), surgical unit are17 (34%) and 16 (32%) are from maternity unit. Majority 45 (90%) of nursing personnel have not attend any in-service programme related to this topic. Only 5 (10%) have attended short term courses. Table shows that out of 50 nursing personnel Majority 26 (52%) of nursing personnel have member of TNAI and 24 (48%) have not member of TNAI.

The present study table 2, shows the data presented in table-5 shows that the mean posttest knowledge scores (37.86) of nursing personnel related to legal responsibilities of nurses was higher than mean pretest knowledge scores (24.36) The obtained mean difference i.e. 13.5 between pretest and posttest knowledge scores was found to be statistically significant as evident from the 't' value of 22.43 for df (49) at 0.05 level. Therefore, the obtained mean difference was a true difference and not by chance.

Here, the null Hypothesis (Ho_1) was rejected and research hypothesis (H1) was accepted. This indicates that the informational booklet on legal responsibilities of nurses was effective in enhancing the knowledge of staff nurses.

Table 2: Mean, Mean difference, Standard deviation of difference, Standard error of mean difference of Pre-test and Posttest Knowledge Scores and 't' Value

N=50

Knowledge Scores	Mean	Mean D	SDD	S.E. of M D	't' value
Pre-Test	24.36	13.5	3.73	3.77	22.43*
Post-test	37.86				

The data given in the table-3 shows the computed chi-square value between gain in posttest knowledge scores and age (x^2=1.72), professional education (x^2=0.04), clinical experience ($x^2$1.23), and in-service education (x^2= 0.22) were not found statistically significant.

This shows that there was no significant association between gain in posttest knowledge scores of nursing personnel and their age, professional education, clinical experience and in-service education. Hence null hypothesis (HO_2) with regards to association between post-test gain in knowledge and selected variables was accepted and research hypothesis (H2) was rejected.

Table 3: Chi- Square Value Showing Relationship between Post-Test Knowledge Scores and Selected Factors of Nursing Personnel on Legal Responsibilities

N=50

S. no.	Selected variables	Knowledge Scores		Df	Chi-Square
		Below Median	Above Median		
1.	**Age**				
	21-30 years	10	10	2	1.72*
	31-40 years	5	4		
	41-50 years	7	14		
2.	**Professional education**				
	G. N.M	20	26	1	0.04*
	B. Sc. Nursing	2	2		
3.	**Clinical Experience**				
	Below 10 years	5	8	1	1.23*
	Above 10 years	21	16		
4.	**In Service Education**				
	Yes	2	3	1	0.22*
	No	20	25		

Degree of Freedom (1), $X^2 = 3.841$, $P>0.05$
Not significant at 0.05 level

Conclusions
The conclusion drawn from the study is
There was a lack of knowledge among nursing personnel regarding legal responsibilities. The informational booklet was found to be effective in enhancing the knowledge of nursing personnel regarding legal responsibilities there was no significant relationship between knowledge scores of nursing personnel with selected factors- Age, professional education, clinical experience and in-service education programme.

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