



# **“A Study To Assess The Effectiveness Of Structured Teaching Programme On Knowledge Regarding Legal And Ethical Issues In Care Of Children Among Nurses Working In Pediatric Units At Selected Hospital, Kanpur”**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Today nursing is considered as a discipline of higher technology coupled with a wealth of complex information. As technology is advancing at a rapid speed, nurses involved in patient care should up-to-date their knowledge. Having knowledge only is not adequate they should apply this knowledge while providing care to patients to improve the health of patients and to prevent development of complications.

Quasi-experimental one group pre-test post-test design was used to assess the effectiveness of STP on knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children among nurses working in pediatric units at selected hospitals Kanpur. An evaluative approach was adopted in this study and it was carried out at Rama hospital. The non-probability purposive sampling was used to select 60nurses. The tool used for the data collection was self-structured knowledge questionnaire. Data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Data from the above figure depicts that in pre-test 39(65.00%) subjects had inadequate knowledge, 18(30.00%) subjects had moderate knowledge and 03(05.00%) regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children. In post-test 48(80.00%) had adequate knowledge and 12(20.00%) had moderate knowledge. Therefore, the research hypothesis  $H_1$  was accepted, i.e. there is significant difference between mean pre-test and post-test knowledge score.

Overall findings showed that there is knowledge deficit among nurses regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children and STP was effective in improving their knowledge.

**Key words:-** Knowledge, STP, Descriptive and Inferential statistics and nurses.

## INTRODUCTION

Kids are seen as the bliss of the family. They fulfil parent's enthusiastic, mental, social and profound necessities. They forestall depression and fatigue and give fondness. Youngsters draw out the parent's presence into future. They excite the day-to-day life<sup>1</sup>. Medical caretakers face lawful issues every day. Those issues might be in association with carelessness, regulating medicine and pushing for the patient. The Nurse Practice Act records the entirety of the obligations and part of a medical attendant, aside from the lawful and moral ones. On the off chance that these obligations and guidelines are not followed, the attendant is in danger of losing his/her permit and confronting a negligence suit.<sup>3</sup>

## NEED FOR THE STUDY

Nursing of a hospitalized youngster is not quite the same as that of a grown-up. The kid needs decisional force and there are more possibilities for the medical caretaker to confront more moral and lawful issues. So the medical attendant should be more aware of forestall issues and issues which she experiences essentially in regions like ICUs.<sup>2</sup>

An article distributed in Times of India, Bangalore dated second Nov'11 with respect to the demise of an infant at an emergency clinic in Murshidabad, West Bengal because of gross clinical carelessness. In which, rather than dettol, corrosive is utilized for cleaning the leg and perineal space of a pregnant woman. Thus the baby passed on not long after birth and her legs are gravely singed. Alongside this 17 passing's have been accounted for around the same time because of gross clinical carelessness in Kolkata.<sup>4</sup>

As per an article distributed in TNAI Journal on the negligence case emergency, it influences all clinical medical care proficient improvement in India. Suppliers were sued by patients for expert's carelessness, injury from damaged items, break of agreement or purposeful demonstrations and exclusions. It zeroed in on both expert items and administration conveyance. Prosthetics and Orthotics are especially helpless against proficient carelessness and item responsibility claims. While it is an indispensable to keep a philanthropic concentration in care conveyance, clinicians and supervisors additionally should rehearse powerful misbehavior hazard management.<sup>5</sup>

In view of the factual information and the individual experience of the investigator there is an incredible need to survey the information on nurses with respect to legitimate and moral issues. In light of the discoveries there might be a need to instruct the nurses who are working in pediatric units.

## OBJECTIVES

- To assess the existing knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children among nurses working in pediatric units.
- To assess the effectiveness of Structured Teaching Programme on legal and ethical issues in care of children among nurses working in pediatric units.
- To determine the association between pre-test knowledge level of nurses regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children with their selected socio-demographic variables.

## HYPOTHESIS

H1 = There will be a significant difference between pre-test and post-test knowledge score of nurses regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children.

H2= There will be a significant association between pre-test knowledge level of nurses regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children with their selected socio-demographic variables.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

### Research approach

In the present study, evaluative approach was used.

### Research design

The research design used in this study was Quasi-experimental one group pre-test and post-test design

## VARIABLES

In this study, knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues on care of children among Staff Nurses was the dependent variable.

### Independent variable

In this study STP (Structured Teaching Programme) on legal and ethical issues in care of children was the independent variable.

### Demographic variables

In this study, age, gender, religion, professional educational qualification, marital status, type of family, area of working, total clinical experience in years and previous knowledge were the demographic variables.

## POPULATION

The population for this study comprises of staff nurses working in pediatric units.

### Target population

In this study the target population was staff nurses working in pediatric units of selected hospitals, Kanpur.

### Accessible population

In this study, the accessible population was staff nurses working in pediatric units of Rama Hospital, Kanpur.

## SAMPLE

The sample for the present study comprises of Registered staff nurses working in pediatric units.

## SAMPLE SIZE

The sample size for the present study consists of 60 staff nurses working pediatric units.

## SETTING

The setting of the present study was Rama Hospital, Kanpur.

## SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

In the present study, non-probability purposive sampling technique was used to select 60 students.

## Inclusion Criteria

Staff nurses, who are:-

- Working in pediatric units at selected hospitals, Kanpur
- available at the time of data collection.
- willing to participate in the study.

## Exclusion Criteria

Staff nurses, who are:-

- working in areas other than pediatric units.
- Undergone special training programme on the legal and ethical issues in the care of children.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

The instrument used in this study consists of two sections which are as follows

**Section A:** A self-structured questionnaire will be used to collect socio-demographic data.

**Section B:** A self-structured questionnaire will be used to assess the knowledge on legal and ethical issues in the care of children.

## RESULTS & FINDINGS

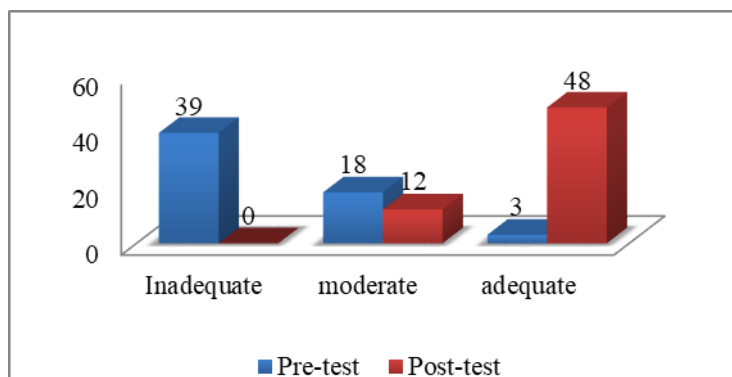
### Section A

**Major findings of the present study are;**

- Majority 45(75.00%) of nurses were between the age group of 21 - 25 years.
- Majority 50(83.33%) of nurses were females.
- Majority 53(88.33%) of nurses were Hindu religion.
- Majority 23(38.33%) of nurses were GNM.
- Majority 30(50.00%) of nurses have 1 – 3 years of clinical experiences.
- Majority 23(38.33%) of nurses were working in NICU.
- Majority 44(73.33%) of nurses are living in nuclear family
- Majority 38(63.33%) of nurses were married
- Majority 52(86.67%) of nurses don't have previous exposure to the source of information.

## Section- B: Knowledge of participants regarding legal and ethical issues in the care of children.

n=60



**Fig: 1** Distribution of samples according to pre-test and post-test knowledge score

Data from the above figure depicts that in pre-test 39(65.00%) subjects had inadequate knowledge, 18(30.00%) subjects had moderate knowledge and 03(05.00%) subjects had adequate knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in the care of children. In post-test 48(80.00%) had adequate knowledge and 12(20.00%) had adequate knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in the care of children.

## Section- C: Effectiveness of STP on knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in the care of child.

n=60

Knowledge assessment	Mean	Mean difference	Standard deviation	df	Paired 't' value	'p' value
Pre-test	12.68	16.65	5.19	59	19.38	<0.00001 S*
Post-test	29.33		4.18			

Note: - S\* - Significant

NS – Not Significant

**Table: 1** illustrates that the mean post-test knowledge score (29.33) was greater than the mean pre-test score (12.68). The mean difference between pre-test and post-test score was (16.65). Paired 't' test knowledge score was 19.38 and it was significant at  $p < 0.00001$  level. Hence research hypothesis  $H_1$  was accepted. This indicates that the STP was effective in increasing the knowledge of staff nurses regarding legal and ethical issues in the care of children.

**Section- D: The association between pre-test knowledge score and selected socio-demographic variables.****Table:2 Association between pre-test knowledge score and selected socio-demographic variables****n=60**

Sl. No	Demographic variables	Chi-square value	Degree of Freedom	Tabulated value	Level of significance
1.	Age	8.76	4	9.49	Not significant
2.	Gender	1.42	2	5.99	Not significant
3.	Religion	0.44	6	12.59	Not significant
4.	Professional educational qualification	3.21	6	12.59	Not significant
5.	Total clinical experience in years	5.38	8	15.51	Not significant
6.	Area of work	3.27	6	12.59	Not significant
7.	Types of family	0.10	4	9.49	Not significant
8.	Marital status	1.63	6	12.59	Not significant
9.	Previous knowledge	0.64	2	5.99	Not significant

S: Significant

NS: Not Significant

**Table: 2** Findings revealed that the chi-square value was not significant at 0.05% level of significance. Hence the research hypothesis H<sub>2</sub> was rejected. It indicted that there was no association between pre-test knowledge score and selected demographic variables of staff nurses.

**IMPLICATIONS**

The investigator has drawn the following implications from the studies, which are of vital concern in the field of nursing practice, nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.

- **Nursing Practice**

The findings of the study could be utilized as a basis for orientation programs and in-service education of the nurses so that constant awareness and clear understanding may be created regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children. This will increase the knowledge and improve the practices of nurses regarding

various aspects of legal and ethical issues in care of children. As practicing of nurses, they can make all the attempts to create awareness regarding code of ethics, ethical principles and standards of nursing practice.

#### ▪ **Nursing Education**

A nurse as an educator has a vital role to play in imparting knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children among nurses in order to reduce the problems of legal and ethical issues in patient care. The findings of the study can be used by the nurse educator to educate the student nurses and staff nurses, which will help them to provide an effective nursing care. Nursing students should be taught about the importance of ethical principles, factors which influence the decision making during dilemma and selection of various alternative methods while providing nursing care.

#### ▪ **Nursing Administration**

In order to achieve this, the nurse, as an administrator, should focus on the importance of knowledge regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children among staff nurses. Nursing administrator can influence the quality of nursing care in hospitals, nursing homes and community by planning health programmes and supervising care at different levels. The nurse can also co-ordinate and discuss about legal and ethical issues in care of children and its consequences at various forums and meetings so that health programs are organized at various levels.

#### ▪ **Nursing research**

Today nursing is an evidence-based practice, so it is important to carry out research studies to improve nursing care and improve the scientific knowledge base of care. Findings of the present study suggest the education and administration should encourage nurses to read, discuss and conduct research to improve body of knowledge behavior and attitude about code of ethics. This could help the researcher to increase the awareness regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children among nurses.

### **LIMITATIONS**

- The study was limited to assess the knowledge of nurses working in pediatric units regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children.
- The study lacked a control group that did not receive any specific teaching to allow the researcher to test the increase on nurse's knowledge without STP.
- The sampling technique used was non probability purposive sampling; hence it limits generalization to a large population.
- No attempt was made to follow up on the nurses.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A study can be undertaken with a large sample to generalize the findings
- An experimental study can be undertaken with control group
- A comparative study can be done between the nurses in private hospital and Government hospital.
- A study can be conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and skill of nurses regarding legal and ethical issues in care of children.
- A similar study can be conducted using the other strategies like self-Instructional Module (SIM) and booklets.



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