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Impact of implementing educational program on knowledge, attitudes and practices of nurses toward pain assessment and management among the elderly at Mansoura University Hospitals, Egypt

Karima Elshamy, Nadia Hassan & Eiad Ramzy
Mansoura University Hospitals, Egypt

Background: Pain is an unpleasant sensation that can range from mild, localized discomfort to agony; it has both physical and emotional components.

Aim: This study aimed to evaluate the level of nurses' knowledge, attitudes and practices toward pain assessment and management among the elderly.

Design: Quasi-experimental study. Pre-post intervention design was used.

Subject and Setting: This study was conducted in Geriatric out patient clinic in specialized medical hospital affiliated to Mansoura University, and Geriatric out patient clinic in Mansoura general hospital affiliated to ministry of health, 42 nurses were included in the study.

Tools: Four tools were used for data collection: 1- Nurses' knowledge and attitudes regarding pain assessment and management questionnaire: It was self-administered questionnaire which included two main parts: Part one: Sociodemographic characteristics of nurses: It included: A- pain assessment. B - pain management (including pharmacological and Non-pharmacological) C- and nurses' attitude towards pain management. 2- Nurses' practice regarding pain assessment and management checklist. 3- Numerical rating scale for pain assessment, and 4 - Pain assessment and management educational program.

Results: There was a significant difference between all aspects pre / post implementation of the program.

Conclusion: The study concluded that implementation of an educational program for nurses was effective in improving nurses' knowledge, attitudes and practices toward pain assessment and management among the elderly which could enhance the quality of patient care. Various factors were discovered to have an impact on the nurses' level of knowledge and attitudes towards pain management.

Recommendations: Pain management is crucial and vital, and should be a priority based on the relevance of the topic to the clinical practice. Further study should be conducted in other hospitals to gain additional information on the level of knowledge and practice of nurses.

Biography

Karima Elshamy has a Doctorate degree in Nursing Science from Cairo University, Egypt (DNSc). She is a Professor of Medical Surgical Nursing and Head of Gerontological Nursing Department, Faculty of Nursing, Mansoura University, Egypt. She represented AORTIC Nursing of North Africa since 2009 – 2011, and from 2011 - 2013 she was AORTIC Vice President of Oncology Nursing, and now she is AORTIC Vice President of North Africa. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Cancer Policy. She is Accreditation Reviewer in Ministry of health, Egypt. She is a founder and executive director of the Egyptian Society for Promotion of Women's Health.

karima_elshamy2002@yahoo.com