

Effectiveness of Awareness Program on Knowledge Regarding Covid-19 among Nursing Students

Bince Varghese, Jubin Varghese, Saniya Susan Issac

PhD Scholar, Shri JITU University, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India

ABSTRACT

Aim: This study aimed to assess the effectiveness of awareness programs on improving the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students in selected nursing colleges from Uttar Pradesh and to find out various factors associated with it.

Materials & methods: A quantitative research approach with Pre-experimental one group pretest and posttest design and Non-probability convenient sampling technique was used to select 30 nursing students from selected nursing colleges of Uttar Pradesh. Self-structured knowledge questionnaire was used for assessing the knowledge regarding COVID-19 among the subjects. SPSS version 25 was used for analyzing the data.

Results: The knowledge mean score in pre-test 9.4 ± 3.7 was lesser than the post-test mean score 20.1 ± 4.4 , the obtained t-value 22.2, $p = 0.001$. There was an association between nursing students' levels of knowledge regarding COVID-19 with their previous source of information ($\chi^2 = 9.6$, $p = 0.04$).

Conclusion: Awareness program was effective to improve the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students.

Keywords: Knowledge, COVID-19, Nursing students, Awareness program

INTRODUCTION

India is fighting the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic and frontline workers on the frontlines are mostly exposed to this infection. COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Coronavirus (COVID-19) is spread by human-to-human transmission through droplet, feco-oral, and direct contact and it has 2-14 days of incubation period. The first cases reported in India on 29th January 2020. Coronavirus Disease 2019 also known as COVID-19 is a quickly escalating pandemic caused by a novel human coronavirus (SARS-COV-2) formerly known as 2019-nCov. The disease is extremely infectious, and its main clinical symptoms include fever, dry cough, lethargy, dyspnea and myalgia. Worldwide coronavirus cases extending to almost 9 million populations, among this 3746048 were active and 471040 deaths. In India the confirmed cases recorded till June 22 is 426140 people among them 175064 were active and 13707 died. In Uttar Pradesh 17731 confirmed cases among them 6186 were active and 550 deaths. At present, India becomes the 4th most affected country with COVID-19.

The speedy and wide-ranging spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has become a foremost reason of apprehension for the healthcare profession mainly nursing profession. This is the main reason the current study analyzed the knowledge among nursing students regarding COVID-19. Objectives of this study were to determine the effectiveness of awareness programs on knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students in selected nursing colleges from Uttar Pradesh and

to find the association of various factors with the level of knowledge.

Objectives: -

1. To assess the existing level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students before the intervention
2. To determine the effectiveness of awareness program on knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students by comparing pretest and posttest
3. To find out the association between knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students with their selected socio-demographic variables

Hypotheses: -

- H₀ : There will be no significant difference between the pre and post intervention level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students
- H₁ : There will be a significant difference between the pre and post intervention level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students
- H₀ : There will be no significant association between the selected demographic variables with the pretest level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students
- H₂ : There will be a significant association between the selected demographic variables with the pretest level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students

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MATERIAL AND METHOD

Research approach & design: - Quantitative approach with Pre experimental one group pretest posttest design

Setting of the study: - The study was conducted in Hind College of Nursing, Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh

Study Population: - GNM and B.Sc. nursing students

Sample size: - 30

Sampling technique: - Non-probability convenient sampling technique

Inclusion criteria: -

1. The nursing students who are willing to participate in the study.
2. The nursing students who are available during the time of data collection.
3. Nursing students who are in the age group of 18-23 years

Exclusion criteria: -

1. The nursing students who are not available at the time of data collection.
2. Nursing students who previously undergone awareness program regarding COVID-19

Tool:

The research tool for data collection consists of two sections:

Section 1: - Demographic tool

It consists of Age, Gender, Education, Place of residence, Type of family and Source of previous information

RESULTS

The major findings of the study were as follows:

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of subjects (n=40)

Demographic Data	Frequency	Percentage
1. Age in years		
18-20	19	63.3
21-23	11	36.7
2. Gender		
Male	9	30
Female	21	70
3. Education (Stream)		
B.Sc Nursing	13	43.3
G.N.M	17	56.7
4. Place of residence		
Own home	9	30
Hostel	14	46.7
Rented house	7	23.3
5. Type of family		
Joint family	10	33.3
Nuclear family	16	53.3
Extended	4	13.3
6. Source of previous information		
No information	10	33.3
Family members & Friends	5	16.7
Teachers	6	20
Mass media	6	20
Medical persons	3	10

Table 1 shows that frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables, the majority of the nursing students 63.3% were in the age group of 18- 20years, 70% were female, 56.7% were GNM nursing students, 46.7% were staying at hostel, 53.3% belonged to a nuclear family, 33.3% had no any previous source of information.

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of overall gradation of knowledge level regarding COVID-19 among nursing students

Knowledge Score	Frequency (%)	
	Pretest	Posttest
Inadequate Knowledge	19 (63.3%)	0 (0%)
Moderate Knowledge	10 (33.3%)	13 (43.3%)
Adequate Knowledge	1 (3.3%)	17 (56.7%)

Table 2 depicts that frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge level regarding COVID-19 among nursing students, in the pretest majority 63.3% had inadequate knowledge, remaining 33.3% moderate knowledge and only 3.3% had adequate knowledge but in the post-test, the majority 56.7% had adequate knowledge followed by 43.3% moderate knowledge and none of them having inadequate knowledge regarding COVID-19.

Table 3: Comparison of Knowledge score regarding COVID-19 among nursing students between Pretest and Posttest

Test	N	Mean	SD	t- value	df	p
Pretest	30	9.4	3.7	22.2	29	0.001**
posttest	30	20.1	4.4			

**Significant (p<0.01)

The table 2 illustrates that comparison of pre-test and post-test knowledge score regarding COVID-19 among the nursing students by using paired t-test, the mean score in pre-test 9.4±3.7 was lesser than the post-test mean score 20.1±4.4, the obtained t- value 22.2, P = 0.001. It is inferred that there is a significant difference in pretest and posttest knowledge score regarding COVID-19 among nursing students. So, awareness program is effective to improve the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students.

Table 4: Association between pretest knowledge level with their demographic variables

Demographic Profile	≤ Median	> Median	x ²	df	p
1. Age in years					
18-20	9	10	0.7	1	0.39
21-23	7	4			
2. Gender					
Male	5	4	0.03	1	0.87
Female	11	10			
3. Education (Stream)					
B.Sc Nursing	9	4	2.3	1	0.13
G.N.M	7	10			
4. Place of residence:					
Own home	3	6	2.2	2	0.34
Hostel	9	5			
Rented house	4	3			
5. Type of family:					
Joint family	7	3	2.5	2	0.29
Nuclear family	8	8			
Extended	1	3			
6. Source of previous information					
No information	7	3	9.6	4	0.04*
Family members & Friends	4	1			
Teachers	1	5			
Mass media	4	2			
Medical persons	0	3			

*Significant (p<0.05)

Table 3 indicates that Chi-square value in pretest knowledge score with the selected demographic variable like source of previous information (x² = 9.6, p=0.04) was significant and other variables like age (0.7), gender (0.03), education (2.3), place of residence (2.2) and type of family (2.5) were not significant(p>0.05). Thus, it can be concluded that there is an association between nursing students' levels of knowledge regarding COVID-19 with their previous source of information

CONCLUSION

Interventional module awareness program was effective to improve the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among nursing students. This study also noticed that there is an association between nursing students' levels of knowledge regarding COVID-19 with their previous source of information. The study is limited to nursing students who

were studying 1st year GNM and B.Sc. and also in selected nursing colleges in Uttar Pradesh, India. There is a robust need to implement educational and awareness programs on COVID-19 infection control practices and other updates of COVID-19 across all healthcare professions including nursing students.

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