

care of patients with PPMs and ICDs, 64% of the study participants had a moderate level of knowledge, whereas 9.4% of the study participants' knowledge was poor. The current study also found a significant difference between novice and expert nurses' knowledge; moreover, a significant difference was also found between the mean levels of knowledge score of nurses having different levels of qualification. Thus, the study also identified a significant difference between the specific study questions; however, a true comparison could not be assured, as dip card nurses were 19 in number.

**Conclusion:** The majority of the nurses were found to have a moderate level of knowledge regarding the care of patients with PPMs and ICDs. Furthermore, the finding of the study has created a platform for nursing leaders to start a comprehensive training program in order to improve the care quality of the patients.

*Prehosp Disaster Med* 2017;32(Suppl. 1):s148–s149

doi:10.1017/S1049023X17004095

### Stress Among the Nurses: Working in an Emergency Unit of a Tertiary Care Teaching Hospital of Eastern Nepal

Ram S. Mehta

Medical-surgical Nursing, B. P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan/Nepal

**Study/Objective:** To assess the stress among the nurses working in Emergency unit of BPKIHS, and to find out the association between stress and selected demographic variables.

**Background:** Nurses who work in highly stressful situations are constantly under pressure, and are vulnerable to a variety of symptoms in reaction to the stress.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional descriptive design was used for the study. The Total Enumerative Sampling technique was used. The sample consisted of all the staffs (25) working in the critical care units. A semi-structured questionnaire was used for data collection. Verbal permission was obtained from each respondent maintaining confidentiality and anonymity. The data were collected from the nurses July 7-14, 2016. The total score of the stress components in the tool, to determine the stress, was 82. The cut off value was taken as 50% (41), to categorize the presence or absence of stress among the respondents.

**Results:** Among the total 25 respondents enrolled in the study, the majority (68%) were below 20 years of age. The majority of them (84%) were married. Maximum respondents (72%) worked up to 48 hours/week, less than one-half (28%) worked more than 48 hours/week. The study showed that 12% of the respondents had stress working in critical care units, whereas 88 % had no stress. Among the socio-demographic variables, the marital status of the nurses had association with stress ( $P = .011$ ). Considering the job related variables, the over-time duty performed by the nurses per week had association with stress statistically ( $P = .04$ ).

**Conclusion:** This study shows that very few nurses (12%) were experiencing stress while working in the Emergency Unit of a tertiary care teaching hospital in eastern Nepal. Apart from their marital status, no other socio-demographic variables were statistically associated to the stress experience.

*Prehosp Disaster Med* 2017;32(Suppl. 1):s149

doi:10.1017/S1049023X17004101

### Knowledge, Attitude and Practice Study of Oxygen Therapy among Emergency Department Nurses in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Girma Lema<sup>1</sup>, Asefaw W/ Tsadik<sup>2</sup>, Lemlem Beza<sup>3</sup>

1. Yekatite 12 hospital medical college, Adis Ababa/Ethiopia

2. Addis Ababa University, Adiss Ababa/Ethiopia

3. Emergency Medicine, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa/Ethiopia

**Study/Objective:** We aimed to identify factors impacting the appropriate use of oxygen by nurses within this setting, with a goal to improve delivery of this therapy.

**Background:** Oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) should be considered a drug as it is prescribed to prevent or treat hypoxemia. The concentration of oxygen prescribed aims to bring oxygen saturation (SpO<sub>2</sub>) to normal or near normal levels. Oxygen is a common part of medical care for critically sick patients. As emergency medicine care grows in Ethiopia, nursing practice has expanded to include, providing therapies such as oxygen. Our study aimed to assess understanding, belief and usage of O<sub>2</sub> among nurses working in the emergency departments (EDs) of four public hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**Methods:** A structured self-administered questionnaire was used to assess knowledge, attitudes, and practices. The collected data was analyzed using SPSS version 20.0. Frequency distributions, cross-tabulations and a graph were used to describe the results of the study.

**Results:** A total of 152 nurses completed the survey. The mean score of knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) with regards to O<sub>2</sub> use was 3.03 (SD = 1.6665), 13.76 (SD = 2.102) and 3.0921 (SD = 1.76183) respectively; 38.2% of participants were males and their median age was 26-30 years. The level of KAP of oxygen therapy was poor and good in 97 (63.8%) and 55 (36.2%) of nurses with regards to knowledge; 71 (46.7%) and 81 (53.3%) with regards to attitude; and 86 (56.6%) and 66 (43.4%) with regards to practice.

**Conclusion:** This study showed that there are knowledge, attitude, and practice gaps among nurses who were working in an ED of a public hospital in Addis Ababa. The possible associated factors for this gap were also identified, which included lack of proper oxygen therapy training, guidelines, workload, and inadequate supplies of oxygen delivery devices. This indicates that there is a need for increased training in this area; regular supportive supervision, health facility guideline development, and adequate oxygen devices are also needed.

*Prehosp Disaster Med* 2017;32(Suppl. 1):s149

doi:10.1017/S1049023X17004113

### Swedish Prehospital Emergency Nurses Preparedness to Care for Pediatric Trauma Patients

Lina Gyllencreutz<sup>1</sup>, Karin Bölenius<sup>1</sup>, Britt-Inger Saveman<sup>2</sup>

1. Nursing, Umeå university, Umeå/Sweden

2. Department Of Surgical And Perioperative Sciences, Section Of Surgery; Department Of Nursing, Umeå University, Umeå/Sweden

**Study/Objective:** To explore prehospital emergency nurses' preparedness care for pediatric trauma patients.

**Background:** Registered Nurses with a Master's degree in Prehospital Emergency Care (PENs) are required to provide advanced prehospital care to patients of all ages. Caring for pediatric trauma patients is described as especially demanding. There is a need to explore further the PENs' preparedness caring for these patients.

**Methods:** A present pilot-study analyzed the content of a valid questionnaire with 36 questions about PENs' self-reported preparedness in caring for pediatric trauma patients. The questionnaire included background characteristics and questions about experiences, education, equipment, practice, knowledge, and the probability of a mass-casualty event. A five-point Likert-scale was used. Thirty-five PENs from northern Sweden participated.

**Results:** PENs reported a greater than a high degree of having received trauma care education, but education relating to pediatric care was scarce, and none of the education included mass-casualty events. However, one-half of them reported more than a high degree of expectancy that a mass-casualty event involving pediatric trauma patients could take place within their ambulance catchment area. Only 40% have a high degree or more of knowledge concerning pediatric patients' vital signs and normal values. PENs (97%) reported low experience in pediatric trauma patient triage in the prehospital setting. One-half of the PENs experienced symptoms of stress when responding to a pediatric trauma alarm, and some also reported reactions such as depression, sadness, unpleasant memories, and fatigue after the alarm.

**Conclusion:** It seems that too few of the PENs have high or more preparedness for caring for pediatric trauma patients in a prehospital setting. Improving the PENs' preparedness for caring for pediatric trauma patients may lead to better opportunities for quality in patient care and for PENs' health. These pilot results indicate a need for further studies.

*Prehosp Disaster Med* 2017;32(Suppl. 1):s150  
doi:10.1017/S1049023X17004125

## A Program to Reduce Nurse Attrition Rate in a Tertiary Care Emergency Medicine Department in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

*Finot D. Yayehyirad*

Emergency Medicine, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa/Ethiopia

**Study/Objective:** The objective of this study is to assess factors that lead to high nursing attrition rates in the emergency department.

**Background:** Emergency medicine is a medical field that is recently introduced to African settings. Among so many particularities of the field, consistent and effective teamwork is the most prominent. Despite the need for consistency, there is often a high turnover for non-MD staff in the emergency department, which leads to a loss of expertise, experience, and affects care delivery.

**Methods:** A pilot study on needs assessment for improving emergency care was conducted on professionals working in the emergency center of Black Lion Hospital. From these, one of the recommendations was recognition of role models. Subsequent interventions will include recognition letters and awards for outstanding performers. The baseline data will be compared with the data after intervention. A standard questionnaire and SPSS version 20 will be used.

**Results:** The pilot study data were collected from a total of 21 nurses working in the emergency room. The mean working experience in the ED was 2.1 (SD = 2.39) years. Problems with setup, system, and communication were identified as discouraging factors to work in the emergency room of Black Lion. Actions to improve the clinical service included improving the setup, developing systems, working on the staff retention, eg recognizing those with outstanding performances and improving inter-professional communication.

**Conclusion:** The nursing attrition rate is high in the emergency room of Black Lion Hospital. There is a need to improve the system, setup, management, and communication problems. Subsequent interventions are expected to bring a change in the nurse attrition rate and better clinical service.

*Prehosp Disaster Med* 2017;32(Suppl. 1):s150  
doi:10.1017/S1049023X17004137