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A STUDY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PLANNED TEACHING PROGRAMME ON INCUBATOR CARE AMONG NICU NURSES IN SELECTED HOSPITALS IN ALLAHABAD (U.P)

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ABSTRACT

In this study pre-experimental design was used with the sample size of 30 NICU staff nurses who were selected by Non- probability Purposive sampling technique. Structured questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge level of NICU staff nurses. The majority (63.33%) of the sample were in the age group of 20 – 29 years and least (3.33%) of the sample were in the age group of 50 years and above. Majority (90%) of the sample had completed general nursing and 3.33% of the sample had completed B.Sc. Nursing. Fifty percent of the samples were single and 50 percent of the samples were married. Majority (70%) of the sample had less than 1 year of experience and 6.67% of the sample had 3 – 6 years of experience in NICU. Highest percentage (46.67%) of the sample gained knowledge on incubator care from experience and 33.33% of the sample gained knowledge on incubator care during nursing course.

INTRODUCTION

We ourselves feel that we are doing is just a drop in the ocean, but the ocean would be less because of that missing drop

-Mother Theresa

The birth of an infant is one of the most awe-inspiring and emotional events that can occur in one's lifetime. After 9 months of anticipation and preparation, the neonate

arrives amid a flurry of excitement. The new human being affects the lives of the parents and also the other family members.

During the past three decades, improvements in the diagnosis and therapeutic approaches in the care of high risk infants have influenced their prognosis favorably. High risk or sick babies who require admission in NICU include those babies with birth weight less than 1800 gms or gestation of less than 34 weeks, delayed passage of meconium (>24 hours) and urine (>48 hours), inability to suck and swallow, cold or febrile baby, infections, respiratory distress and seizures.

Background of the study

The neonate signifies the beginning of life and provides a foundation for future health of the nation. Every year around 25 million babies are born in India accounting for 50 births per minute. Almost 3 neonates die every minute leading to 1.2 million deaths every year, thus accounting for 31% of global neonatal deaths. Every fourth baby in India is a low birth weight (<2500gms) baby accounting for a high load of morbidity and mortality and mortality. Every year 8 million low birth weight babies, 2.7 million pre term babies (<37weeks gestation) and over 1 million very low birth weight babies (<1500 gms) are born in India. Based on these estimates, it is projected that every year one million babies suffer from birth asphyxia, respiratory distress syndrome, and hyperbilirubinemia while 0.5 million babies show evidence of neonatal sepsis and congenital malformations in our country.

An at-risk newborn is one who is susceptible to illness (morbidity) or even death because of dysmaturity, immaturity, physical disorder or complications during and after birth. Intensive neonatal care is required for babies weighting less than 1500 gms or those born before 32 weeks of gestation. About 3% to 5% of newborn population qualifies for intensive care.

Objectives of the study

1. To determine the level of knowledge on incubator care among NICU nurses as measured by structured knowledge questionnaire.

2. To determine the effectiveness of planned teaching programme on incubator care among NICU nurses.

3. To find the association between the pre-test knowledge score and selected demographic variables like clinical experience and educational qualification.

Hypotheses

H1: The mean post-test knowledge score of NICU nurses on incubator care will be significantly higher than their mean pre-test knowledge score at 0.05 level of significance.

H2: The mean post-test knowledge score of NICU nurses in different area of incubator care will be significantly higher than the mean pre-test knowledge score at 0.05 level of significance.

Material and Method

Description of the tool

A structured knowledge questionnaire was developed to assess the knowledge on incubator care.

The tool for data collection had two sections:

Section A: Baseline Proforma

This section contained five items for obtaining the baseline information of the NICU nurses regarding their age, educational qualification, marital status, years of experience in NICU and source of knowledge on incubator care.

Section B: Structured knowledge questionnaire

This part consisted of 20 items on the following areas:

  i.   Incubator

 ii.   Hypothermia

iii.   Thermoregulation

 iv.   Humidification

  v.   Oxygen administration

 vi.   Control of infection

vii.   Control of noise

viii.   Role of nurse

ix.   Weaning
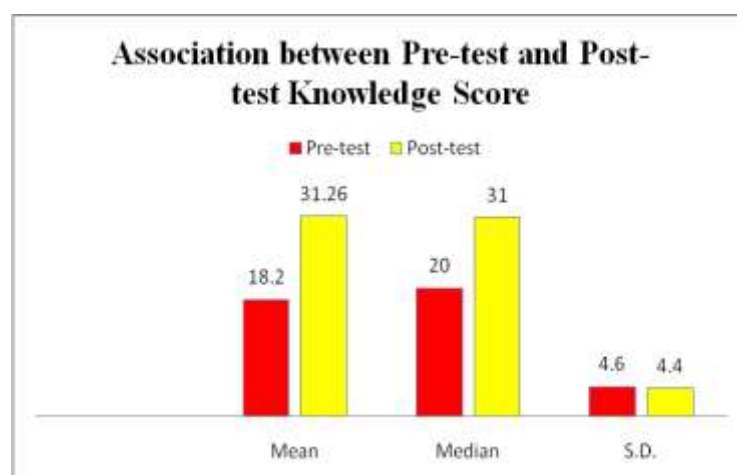
x.   Advantage and disadvantage

RESULT

Section A: Description of demographic variable of the sample

The majority (63.33%) of the sample were in the age group of 20 – 29 years and least (3.33%) of the sample were in the age group of 50 years and above. Majority (90%) of the sample had completed general nursing and 3.33% of the sample had completed B.Sc. Nursing. Fifty percent of the samples were single and 50 percent of the samples were married. Majority (70%) of the sample had less than 1 year of experience and 6.67% of the sample had 3 – 6 years of experience in NICU. Highest percentage (46.67%) of the sample gained knowledge on incubator care from experience and 33.33% of the sample gained knowledge on incubator care during nursing course.
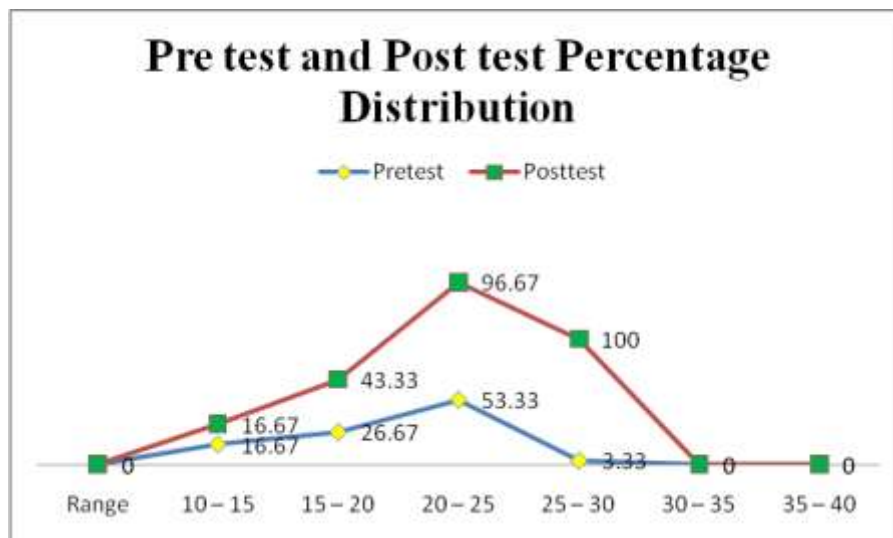
Section B: Knowledge of NICU nurses regarding incubator care

The majority (86.67%) of the sample had good knowledge on incubator care and 13.33% had average knowledge on incubator care in the post-test, whereas in the pre-test 86.67% of the sample had average knowledge on incubator care and 13.33% had poor knowledge on incubator care.

Section C: Association between pretest and post test knowledge score

Section D: Percentage distribution between Pre-test and Post-test

Pre test and Post test Percentage Distribution

Recommendation

1. A similar study can be conducted on larger sample from various hospitals.
2. Similar studies can be conducted on other aspects of the NICU like ventilator care, phototherapy, nesting and oxygen administration.
3. Similar study can be conducted to assess the practice of NICU nurses on incubator care.
4. Similar study can be undertaken using other modalities like self-instructional module.