

**A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PLANNED TEACHING PROGRAM ON THE KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENT NURSES REGARDING LEGAL ASPECTS OF PATIENT CARE AT SELECTED COLLEGE****R. Nimmi\***

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**ABSTRACT**

Nurses face many legal and ethical issues while providing patient care and it is essential to understand the law and the way it affects the nursing practice. **Objectives:** To assess the knowledge of nursing students regarding legal aspects. **Methodology:** Research design-The research design for the present study is Quasi-Experimental one group pre-test and post-test design. Findings: The pre-test score result shows maximum students (84.4%) had average knowledge and none had high level knowledge. **Recommendations:** An explorative study can be conducted to find out the need for knowledge of nurses in different kind of set-up regarding legal aspects of patient care to compare the knowledge of nurses.

**KEYWORDS:** Knowledge, legal aspects, patient care.**INTRODUCTION**

Today, legal rights and ethics are ongoing concerns for nurses in patient care and the human rights these days are the prime importance in the care of mentally ill patient. The law serves many valuable functions when applied to the nursing practice. It differentiates nursing practice from the practice of other health care professionals, and describes and protects the rights of clients and nurses. In the past few years, there has been a rise in the number of legal cases filed against hospitals and nurses in India. In many studies it was found that nurses are unaware of informed consent taken from patient and its importance in maintaining the confidentiality to provide the quality care to the patient. Some studies found that nurses are unaware of consumer rights of patient and they don't behave in the dignified manner.

**METHODOLOGY**

Research approach- Evaluations are undertaken with the aim of providing answer to a question about effectiveness of the program. An evaluation research approach was considered for the present study. Research design-The research design for the present study is Quasi-Experimental one group pre-test and post-test design.

**FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

Findings related to demographic characteristics:- Majority (93.8%) of the respondents were in the age group 20-25 years. All (100%) of the students were

female. Majority (96.9 %) of the respondents completed higher secondary education. Majority (78.10%) of respondents belongs to Hindu religion. Majority (50%) have monthly family income between 5001-1000. Highest numbers (93.8%) of students' belonged to nuclear family. Majority (53.10%) belongs from rural background. Majority (75%) of the students belongs to science stream for the qualifying course. Findings related to pre-test and post-test knowledge score :- The pre-test score result shows maximum students (84.4%) had average knowledge and none had high level knowledge. Findings related to effectiveness Of Planned Teaching Program Regarding Legal Aspects Of Patient Care:- The Findings Shows Student Has Significant Difference In Knowledge Level ( $T=8.339$ , Findings Related To Association Depicts That Pretest Knowledge Score Shows Association Only With The Educational Qualification.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

On the basis of the findings of the study the following recommendations have been made. An explorative study can be conducted to find out the need for knowledge of nurses in different kind of set-up regarding legal aspects of patient care to compare the knowledge of nurses. A true experimental study can be done by including a control group in the present research on legal aspects of patient care. Scientific studies similar to this study can be undertaken in various nursing colleges and in various hospitals.

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