

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING COVID-19 (TRANSMISSION, MANAGEMENT & PREVENTION) AMONG B.SC NURSING STUDENTS, THIRUVALLUR DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU.

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ABSTRACT

In an effort to mitigate the outbreak of COVID-19, many countries have imposed drastic lockdown, movement control or shelter in place orders on their residents. The nationwide (India) corona virus cases has crossed 1.9 lakh. The total cases in the country stood at 1,90,535 including 5,394 deaths, according to data from the Union Health Ministry(NDTV NEWS- June 1 2020)(4). In such pandemic situation the knowledge regarding the disease to manage and prevent the further spread plays a vital role in most populated country. This study helps to know the knowledge level of Nursing students regarding transmission, management and prevention of Covid-19. **Research approach:** Non experimental qualitative Research design, **Research design** Descriptive survey design, **Setting of this study:** The study was conducted at Indira College of Nursing, Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu, **Sample size:** The total sample size was 30, **Sample technique:** Convenient sampling technique was used for this study. **Results:** Among 30 samples 7(23.4%) showed good knowledge, 18(60%) had average knowledge and 5 (16.6%) fair knowledge regarding Covid-19.

KEYWORDS: covid 19 Corona virus, Pandemic, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

INTRODUCTION

On December 31, the Government in Wuhan, China, confirmed that health authorities were treating dozens of cases. Days later, researchers in China identified a new virus that had infected dozens of people in Asia^[1] India announced a complete lock down for 21 days beginning midnight of 24 March 2020 as an all-out measure to tackle the spread of the novel corona virus disease COVID-19^[2] Corona viruses are a large family of viruses that are known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). A novel corona virus (CoV) is a new strain of corona virus that has not been previously identified in humans. The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face (WHO).^[3]

OBJECTIVES

- To assess the knowledge regarding Corona virus transmission, management and prevention among Nursing college students.
- To assess the demographic data of the sample.

METHODOLOGY

Research approach: Non experimental quantitative research design. Research design: Descriptive survey design. Setting of this study: The study was conducted at Indira College of Nursing. Sample size: The total sample size is 30. Sample technique: Convenient sampling technique was used for this study. Research tool technique -Tool consists of two parts: Part-1: It consists of structured questionnaire with questions related to the demographic data of the students. Demographic data includes age, sex, religion, educational status, residential area of the students. Part- 2: It consists of 25 structured interview questionnaires which we used to assess the knowledge of the nursing students regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention.

The Score Was Categorized As

Good - more than 75%

Average - 51 – 75%

Fair - less than 50%

Data Analysis and Interpretations

Reveals that among 30 sample, 27(90%) are between age of 17 and 20 years, 3(10%) are between 21 and 23 years. regarding residential area 6(20%) are from community area, 6(20%) are from town, 16(53%) from city and 2(7%) from villages. About the usage of face masks

26(87%) are using disposal masks (surgical masks), 1(3%) use some cloth masks, 1(3%) use N95 masks and 2(7%) are using hand kerchiefs. Regarding hand hygiene 5(17%) use soap and water, 9(31%) use hand sanitizers, 8(26%) use plain water to wash hands and 8(26%) of them use germ sprays. Regarding attending covid 19 online classes/conferences, 23(77%) says yes and 7(23%) say no.

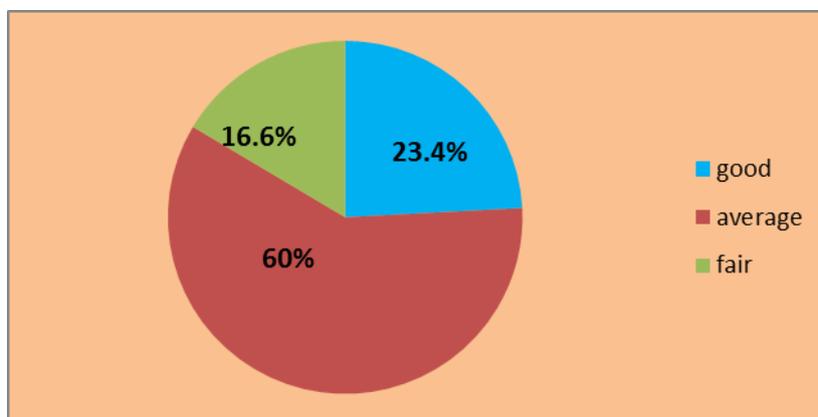


Fig. 1: Percentage Distribution of Knowledge.

The above figure represents the percentage distribution of knowledge

- 7(23.4%) have good knowledge
- Majority of them, 18(60%) have average knowledge
- 5(16.6%) have fair knowledge regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention.

Major findings of the study

Among 30 samples 7(23.4%) have good knowledge, 18(60%) has average knowledge and 5 (16.6%) has fair knowledge regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention.

Recommendation

1. A study can be replicated using a large sample for a longer duration to generalize and validate the findings.
2. A study can be conducted for nurses, doctors, or health care workers and among general public.

DISCUSSION

The aim of the study is to assess the knowledge among B.Sc. (N) students regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention. The sample size 30 was selected. Questionnaire was distributed to the students in order to assess their knowledge regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention.

1. The first objective is to know the demographic data of B.Sc. (N) students of Indira College of Nursing. Among 30 sample, of them 27(90%) are between 17 to 20 and 3(10%) are between 21 to 23 years of age. Gender wise 4 (13%) are male 26(87%) are female. 9(30%) are studying 1st year, 9(30%) are studying 2nd year and 12(40%) are studying 3rd year.

2. The second objective was to assess the knowledge regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention by using questionnaire. Among 30 samples 7(23.4%) have good knowledge, 18(60%) had average knowledge and 5 (16.6%) has fair knowledge.

CONCLUSION

The knowledge of BSC nursing students regarding corona virus transmission, management and prevention was overall good.

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