

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of Nursing Staff and Other Paramedical Staff regarding Sterilization of Instruments

Sunita, R, Bhandari; Rajesh, Bande;

Dr. Sunita R Bhandari. Professor, Dept of Microbiology, SMBT institute of Medical Sciences & Research Centre. Dhamangaon, Tal Igatpuri, Nasik.

Abstract

Background: Sterilization is very important part of any procedures including surgical procedures in the medical field. It is essential for the nursing as well as other paramedical staff to have basic knowledge of sterilization and disinfection of the instruments. The objective of the study was to assess the level of knowledge and awareness among different levels of healthcare workers about sterilization. **Materials & Methods:** Questionnaire was designed to obtain information about knowledge of sterilization among nursing and other paramedical staff of medical college and nearby hospitals. The questionnaires were filled in by the participants. The study was carried out over a period of 6 months. The questionnaire contained about knowledge about sterilization, sterilization protocol, etc. Data were analyzed by IBM SPSS statistical software version 20. **Results:** There were 20 questions in each questionnaire. Total 85 nursing staff and 125 paramedical staff had participated in the study. Comparison of the scores of nursing and paramedical staff had shown that nursing staff had more knowledge, attitude and practice regarding sterilization than that of the paramedical staff and the difference was statistically significant. Although the nursing staff had more knowledge than paramedical staff, they were still not having sufficient basic knowledge regarding sterilization of instruments like temperature, chemicals used, monitoring of the standardization of the sterilization, etc. **Conclusion:** There is need to improve the knowledge, attitude and practice of the healthcare staff regarding sterilization through seminars, symposiums or CDE programmes.