

Knowledge and Attitude of Staff Nurses Towards Organ Donation

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Abstract-

Background: Organ donation refers to giving an organ or part of an organ to be transplanted into another person whose organs may be in the failing stage. Organ transplantation may be the only option to save lives in patients suffering from terminal organ failures so that they have improved quality of life.

Objectives- The study objectives were to assess the knowledge of staff nurses towards organ donation, to assess the attitude of staff nurses towards organ donation, to find out the association of knowledge of staff nurses regarding organ donation with selected socio-demographic variables and to find out the association of attitude of staff nurses towards organ donation with selected socio-demographic variables

Methods: The research approach used was quantitative approach and the design used was descriptive survey research design. The tools used in the present study consisted of structured questionnaire to collect the demographic data of the study participants, structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the knowledge of staff nurses towards organ donation and a self-structured attitude scale to obtain the attitude of staff nurses towards organ donation. The sample for the study consisted of 100 staff nurses who fulfilled the inclusion criteria.

Results: The results of the study showed that that 58% of staff nurses had **average** knowledge, 34% had **good** knowledge and 8% had **poor** knowledge regarding organ donation. In the attitude scores, 72% staff nurses had most favorable attitude, 27 % had favorable attitude and only 1 % had unfavorable attitude towards organ donation.

Conclusion: As per the study results, it is recommended that strategies to improve the knowledge and attitude of staff nurses need to be incorporated into routine health care system in order to close the gap between the demand and supply of organs in future.

Keywords- Knowledge, Attitude, Staff nurses, Organ donation

I. INTRODUCTION

Organ donation refers to giving an organ or part of an organ to be transplanted into another person whose organs may be in the failing stage. Organ transplantation may be the only option to save lives in patients suffering from terminal organ failures so that they have improved quality of life. But in the actual situation it is observed that a huge disparity exists between the supply and demand of donated organs, which leads to loss of many lives.¹ Organ donation is the process of surgically removing an organ or tissue from one person (the organ donor) and placing it into another person (the recipient). Transplantation is necessary because the recipient's organ has failed or has been damaged by disease or injury. Organ transplantation is one of the great advances in modern medicine. Unfortunately, the need for organ donors is much greater than the number of people who actually donate. Every day in the United States, 21 people die waiting for an organ and more than 107,380 men, women and children await life-saving organ transplants. In 2019, Spain had the highest donor rate in the world at 46.91 per million people, followed by the US (36.88 per million), Croatia (34.63 per million), Portugal (33.8 per million), and France (33.25 per million). As of February 2, 2019, there were 120,000 people waiting for life-saving organ transplants in the US. Of these, 74,897 people were active candidates waiting for a donor.

II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

To accomplish the objectives of this study, a quantitative research approach was used to assess the knowledge and attitude of staff nurses working in selected Hospital. Structured knowledge questionnaire and attitude rating scale were formulated on the basis of the objectives of the study, as it were considered to be the most appropriate instruments to elicit responses from the nurses regarding organ donation. The prepared tool along with objectives of the study, problem statement and blue print were submitted to 08 experts for content validity. All of them were from the field of Medical Surgical Nursing and reliability of the structured

knowledge questionnaire was measured by Karl Pearson's Split Half Method. Reliability of structured knowledge questionnaire was $r = 0.77$

III. RESULTS

Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for analysis. Results of the study were organized into following sections.

SECTION A: Distribution of staff nurses according to their socio-demographic data.

SECTION B: Distribution of staff nurses according to their Knowledge scores

SECTION C: Distribution of staff nurses according to their attitude scores

SECTION D: Association of knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding organ donation with selected socio-demographic variables.

SECTION A: DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF NURSES ACCORDING TO THEIR SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.

Table – 1 Frequency & Percentage distribution of staff nurses according to socio-demographic data n=100

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES		FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
GENDER	Male	32	32
	Female	68	68
RELIGION	Hindu	82	82
	Christian	6	6
	Muslim	11	11
	Others	1	1
MARITAL STATUS	Married	47	47
	Unmarried	52	52
	Divorced	1	1
	Live in Relation	0	0

	n		
CLINICAL AREA	Emergency	8	8
	ICU	21	21
	General ward	62	62
	OPD	9	9
CLINICAL EXPERIENCE	<1 year	17	17
	1-3 year	39	39
	3-5 year	26	26
	>5year	18	18
MONTHLY FAMILY INCOME	<10000 Rs	26	26
	10001-20000 Rs	47	47
	20001-30000 Rs	20	20
	>30000 Rs	7	7
KNOWLEDGE	Yes	97	97
	No	3	3
SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE	Social media	27	27
	Books	14	14
	Seminars	31	31
	Training	23	23
	Program	5	5

The data from the table shows that majority of samples were females (68%) whereas 32% were males. 82% of them were Hindus, 11% Muslim, 6% Christians and 1% belonged to other religion. Among the sample, 52% were unmarried, 47% were married and 1% divorced. Out of the staff nurses, 73% were GNM, 16% ANM BSc (10%) and MSc (1%). Regarding the clinical area in they worked, 62% were in the general ward, 21% in ICU, 9% in OPD and 8% in Casualty. As per years of clinical experience, 39% were having 1-3 years experience, 26% had 3-5 years, 18% had more than 5 years and 18% had <1 year experience. In family monthly income, 47% had income between 10,001-20,000 followed by 27% with <10,000, 20% between Rs.20,001-30,000 and 7% had income more than 30,000. Regarding knowledge on organ donation, 97% had awareness 3% did not have knowledge on organ donation. The mode of acquiring knowledge was by seminars (31%), followed by social media (27%), training (23%), books (14%) and others 5%.

SECTION B: DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF NURSES ACCORDING TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE SCORES

Table – 2 Distribution of staff nurses according to their knowledge scores

n = 100

KNOWLEDGE	RANGE	FREQUENCY	Mean & SD
GOOD	14-20	34	11.35± 3.46
AVERAGE	7-13	58	
POOR	0-6	8	
TOTAL		100	

Figure 1- Bargraph depicting the distribution of staff nurses according to their knowledge scores

Above mentioned table and bar graph reveals that 58% of the staff nurses had average knowledge, 34% had good knowledge and 8% had poor knowledge regarding organ donation.

SECTION C: DISTRIBUTION OF STAFF NURSES ACCORDING TO THEIR ATTITUDE SCORES

Table – 3 Distribution of staff nurses according to their attitude scores

n = 100

ATTITUDE	RANGE	FREQUENCY	MEAN & SD
MOST FAVOURABLE	51-60	72	51.39± 5.35
FAVOURABLE	36-50	27	
UNFAVOURABLE	20-35	1	
	TOTAL	100	

The table shows that 72% staff nurses had most favorable attitude, 27% had favorable attitude and only 1% had unfavourable attitude towards organ donation.

SECTION D: ASSOCIATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF STAFF NURSES REGARDING ORGAN DONATION WITH SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES.

The association of knowledge scores of staff nurses with socio demographic variables revealed significant association with their marital status. There was no significant association between socio-demographic variables like Gender, Religion, Education, clinical area of experience, experience. Monthly income, knowledge and source of information.

The association between attitude scores of staff nurses with their socio demographic variables showed that here was significant association between education and the attitude scores. No significant association was found between socio-demographic variables like gender, religion, marital status, clinical area of experience, experience, monthly income, knowledge and source of information.

IV. DISCUSSION

The present study revealed that 58% staff nurses had average knowledge, 34% staff nurses belong to good category and 8 % belonged to poor category and in the attitude, 72% staff nurses had most favorable attitude, 27 % had favorable attitude and 1 % had unfavorable attitude.

A similar research conducted by Ms.Rajlaxmi, in 2019 which assessed the knowledge and attitude of staff nurses regarding organ donation in a selected hospital of New Delhi showed that majority (90%) of the staff nurses had

inadequate knowledge and only 10% were having adequate knowledge. Majority (78.33%) of the nurses had a favorable attitude whereas 21.66% showed an unfavorable attitude towards organ donation. This study recommended on the increased need for improvement in knowledge as well as attitude towards organ donation among staff nurses.

Another descriptive cross-sectional study conducted among 400 medical and nursing students in a tertiary care hospital of Kathmandu valley to assess knowledge towards human body and organ donation by Poonam Singh. in 2021 revealed that the majority of the respondents 374 (93.5%) agreed that bodies could be donated for educational and learning purposes after death. One hundred seventy five (43.5%) of the respondents were motivated to donate their bodies or organs. Self-motivation followed by motivation through media by celebrities, family members, and faculties were seen among the participants. The study concluded that a proper voluntary body donation act need to be in place to facilitate medical teaching with the proper motivation of people for this generous gift to further the knowledge and expand the field of medical science.

The statistical analysis of the current study showed the significant association of knowledge scores with socio-demographic variable, marital status and also there was significant association between education of staff nurses and their attitude scores. Whereas in a previous study conducted by K. M. Parmar, et. al.,2021 for evaluating the awareness of organ and body donation and cadaveric dissection among the general population attending medical and dental hospitals, found that a higher proportion of subjects with college education were aware of organ (84.6%) and body (92.3%) donation and cadaveric dissection (92.3%) and were also willing to donate body (92.3%). Hence the study concluded that gender, education and socioeconomic background have an impact on organ/body donation and willingness to donate.

V. CONCLUSION

The present study was conducted to assess the knowledge and attitude of the staff nurses regarding organ donation at selected hospital in Vadodara. As per the study results,58% staff nurses had average knowledge, 34% staff nurses belong to good category and 8 % belonged to poor category and in the attitude, 72% staff nurses had most favorable attitude, 27 % had favorable attitude and 1 % had unfavorable attitude. Hence, it is recommended that further strategies to improve the knowledge and attitude of staff nurses need to be incorporated into routine health care system in order to close the gap between the demand and supply of organs in future.

DECLARATIONS

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

There are no competing interests, according to the authors.

AUTHOR'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Author 1 – Conceptualization/design of the study and final drafting of manuscript.

Author 2 – Data collection, analysis and Interpretation of results.

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CONSENT AND ETHICAL APPROVAL

The required ethical approvals for conducting a study were obtained from the institutional research committee (PUIECHR/PIMSR/00/081734/5413) and the informed written consent was also obtained from individual study participants.

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