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AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PATIENT SAFETY AMONG HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AT MULTISPECIALITY HOSPITAL

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Abstract

Patient safety is a critical component of healthcare delivery. Healthcare professionals play a crucial role in ensuring the patient safety and effective care. However, there is a need to increase awareness and knowledge about patient safety among healthcare professionals. This abstract provides an overview of the importance of patient safety, the challenges associated with ensuring patient safety, and the need for increased awareness and knowledge among healthcare professionals. Patient safety refers to the prevention of harm to patients during healthcare delivery. Adverse events can occur due to errors in diagnosis, medication administration, surgery, or other aspects of care. These events can result in significant harm to patients, including disability, prolonged hospitalization, and death. Healthcare professionals must be aware of the risks associated with patient care and take steps to prevent adverse events from occurring. There are several challenges associated with ensuring patient safety, including the complexity of healthcare systems, the high workload of healthcare professionals, and the potential for communication errors. To address these challenges, healthcare professionals need to have a comprehensive understanding of patient safety principles and strategies. Increasing awareness and knowledge about patient safety among healthcare professionals is essential to improving patient outcomes. This can be achieved through education and training programs that focus on patient safety principles and strategies. These programs can help healthcare professionals understand the importance of patient safety, identify potential risks, and take appropriate measures to prevent adverse events. In conclusion, patient safety is a critical component of healthcare delivery.

Keywords: Healthcare, Patient Safety, Multispeciality Hospital.

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1. Introduction

Patient safety is a critical aspect of healthcare delivery that focuses on preventing harm to patients during the provision of healthcare services. Patient safety is a key component of quality care, and it is essential in ensuring positive health outcomes for patients. Healthcare providers must prioritize patient safety at all times and ensure that patients receive the best possible care without exposing them to any avoidable harm. In this essay, we will explore the importance of patient safety, the main factors that contribute to patient harm, and the measures healthcare providers can take to ensure patient safety.

Patient safety is critical in healthcare because it is a fundamental human right. Patients have the right to receive safe and effective care, and healthcare providers have a duty to provide it. Patient safety is essential in ensuring that patients receive the right care at the right time, without experiencing harm, adverse events, or medical errors. In addition, patient safety is necessary to build trust between patients and healthcare providers, which is essential for effective healthcare delivery.

Several factors contribute to patient harm in healthcare, including medical errors, adverse events, and healthcare-associated infections. Medical errors occur when healthcare providers fail to provide the right care or make mistakes while providing care. Adverse events occur when patients experience harm while receiving healthcare services. Healthcare-associated infections occur when patients acquire infections while receiving care. These factors can result in serious harm to patients, including disability, prolonged hospital stays, and even death.

Healthcare providers can take several measures to ensure patient safety. One critical measure is to ensure that healthcare providers receive appropriate training and education. Healthcare providers must be adequately trained and competent in their roles to ensure that they provide safe and effective care. Another important measure is to ensure that healthcare facilities have appropriate policies and procedures in place to prevent patient harm. Healthcare facilities should have policies and procedures that address patient safety, including infection prevention and control, medication safety,

and fall prevention. Healthcare providers must also involve patients in their care by providing them with clear and accurate information about their health condition and treatment options.

Patient safety is critical to the delivery of high-quality healthcare, and healthcare organizations have a responsibility to implement strategies that ensure patient safety is a top priority.

2. Review of Literature

Reviewing the previous literature brought out a message that the awareness and knowledge about patient safety among healthcare professionals is crucial for the efficient functioning of hospitals and for ensuring that patients receive appropriate care in a timely manner. The health care professionals regarding patient safety have been explained by Indre Brasaitė, Marja Kaunonen, Arvydas Martinkenas, Vida Mockienė, Tarja Suominen (2017) says that the knowledge level of respondents was generally found to be low. This requires that further research into health care professionals' safety knowledge related to specific issues such as medication, infection, falls, and pressure sore prevention should be undertaken in Lithuania. Ayesha Abubakar Mitha Usman Mahboob (2021) explained about Patient safety awareness and attitude among interns says that to assess the knowledge, behaviours and attitudes towards Patient Safety (PS) among interns of a tertiary care hospital, a cross sectional survey. Awareness and implementation of nine World Health Organization's patient safety solutions among three groups of healthcare workers has been explained by Ahmed Al-Mandhari, Ibrahim Al-Zakwani, Samir Al-Adawi, Samra Al-Barwani Lakshmanan Jeyaseelan (2016) says that the primary healthcare center staff demonstrated higher awareness compared to hospital staff. There was a complex relationship between health professional's age, place of work and awareness and practice. Assessment of patient safety culture in primary health care in Muscat, a questionnaire-based survey has been explained by Muna Habib Al Lawati, Stephanie D Short, Nadia Noor Abdulhadi, Sathiya Murthi Panchatcharam, Sarah Dennis says that to explore the understanding of frontline primary health care professionals regarding patient safety culture in health care

facilities. It is a questionnaire-based survey was conducted using a validated Hospital Survey of Patient Safety Culture tool.

3. Objectives

This study aims to understand to determine the level of patient safety among healthcare professionals. It also helps to identify factors associated with knowledge among Health care professionals.

4. Research Methodology

The research study is based on observation type in which the primary data has been collected using a questionnaire, to calculate the knowledge and awareness about the patient safety among healthcare professionals. The study was conducted from 1 March 2023 to 15 April 2023 and recorded 100 healthcare professionals by using simple random sampling, and the statistical tool used for the study is percentage analysis, weighted average and chi-square analysis.

5. Data Analysis and Results

Percentage Analysis

A total of 100 healthcare professionals have responded to the survey of which 34% were male and 66% were female. Details regarding the demographic data of the nurses are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of the Nurses

Variables	Categories	N=100	Percentage
Gender	Male	34	34%
	Female	66	66%
Age	20-29	52	52%
	30-39	32	32%
	40-49	12	12%
	>49	04	4%
Job nature	Permanent	30	30%
	Temporary	52	52%
	Contract	18	18%
Designation	Advanced Practice Nurse	3	3%
	Nursing Assistant	7	7%
	Registered Nurse	35	35%
	Physician	1	1%
	Resident Intern	4	4%
	Physician Assistant	3	3%
	Attending Hospitals	1	1%
	Dieticians	5	5%
	Pharmacist	2	2%
	Occupational Therapist	3	3%

	Respiratory Therapist	3	3%
	Social Workers	2	2%
	Technicians	2	2%
	Administrator	1	1%
	Senior Leader	6	6%
	Executive	2	2%
	Manager	1	1%
	Food Services	4	4%

	Secretary	8	8%
	Information Technology	4	4%
	House Keeping	3	3%
Non-compliance	1 - 2 times	8	8%
	2 - 5 times	10	10%
	6 - 10 times	20	20%
	11 or more	62	62%

Weighted Average Analysis

Section A

S.No	Parameters	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total	Weighted Average
Q1	In this unit we worktogether as an effective team	1	0	10	31	58	100	4.45
Q2	In this unit, we have enough staff to handle thework load	5	12	25	26	32	100	3.68
Q3	Staff in this unit work longer hours than is bestfor patient care	3	5	19	35	38	100	4
Q4	In this unit, changes to improve patient safety are evaluated to see how well they worked	2	6	21	36	35	100	3.96
Q5	My supervisor, Manager,or Clinical leader takesaction to address patient safety concerns that are brought to their attention	4	4	18	32	42	100	4.04
Q6	During shift changes, thereis adequate time to exchange all patient care information	7	8	20	32	33	100	3.76
Q7	The actions of hospital management show that patient safety is a top priority	3	6	17	33	41	100	4.03

Interpretation

The above table indicates that among 100 respondents, the highest weighted average of 4.45

for in the unit they were working together as an effective team and the least weighted average of 3.68 for in the unit, they have enough staff to handle the workload.

Section B

S. No	Parameters	Always	Most of the times	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Total	Weighted Average
Q8	We are informed about defects that happen in this unit	38	22	10	6	24	100	3.44
Q9	When defects happen in this unit, we discuss ways to prevent them from happening again	35	24	9	7	25	100	3.37
Q10	When the mistake is identified and corrected before reaching the patient, how often it is reported?	31	26	10	8	25	100	3.3
Q11	In this unit we have informed about the changes that are based on events	26	25	18	5	26	100	3.2
Q12	When staff in this unit see someone with more authority doing something unsafe for patients, speak up	21	22	22	9	26	100	3.03
Q13	In this unit staffs are afraid to ask question that something goes beyond the limit.	17	17	20	8	38	100	2.67

Interpretation

The above table indicates that among 100 respondents, the highest weighted average of 3.44 for they are informed about the defects that happen in this unit and the least weighted average of 2.67 for In the unit, staff are afraid to ask questions when something goes beyond the limit.

Since the significant value is less than $p\text{-value} < 0.05$, there is highly significant association between the action of hospital management show that patient care is a top priority among gender of respondents.

Chi Square

Association Between the Action of Hospital Management Show that Patient Care is A Top Priority Among Gender of Respondents

H₀: There is no significant association between the action of hospital management show that patient care is a top priority among gender of respondents.

H₁: there is a significant association between the action of hospital management show that patient care is a top priority among gender of respondents.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, awareness and knowledge about patient safety among healthcare professionals are crucial for ensuring that patients receive high-quality care and avoid harm from medical errors. Healthcare professionals who are knowledgeable about patient safety principles can identify and mitigate potential risks and improve the quality of care they provide to their patients. Studies have shown that training and education programs focused on patient safety can improve healthcare professionals' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours related to patient safety. It is essential that healthcare organizations provide ongoing education and training opportunities for their staff to enhance their understanding of patient safety issues and best practices. Moreover, effective communication among healthcare professionals, patients, and families can also improve patient safety. Encouraging open communication and creating a culture of safety can facilitate reporting of errors and near-misses, allowing healthcare organizations to learn from mistakes and improve their systems and processes. Overall, awareness and knowledge about patient safety are critical components of high-quality healthcare. By promoting a culture of safety and providing education and training opportunities, healthcare

		The Action of Hospital Management Show That Patient Care is A Top Priority					Total
		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	
Gender	Male	0	2	4	2	3	11
	Female	1	0	5	10	16	32
Total		1	2	9	12	19	43

$p\text{-value} < 0.05$

Interpretation

H₁ is accepted.

organizations can ensure that their staff is equipped to provide safe, effective care to their patients. Healthcare institutions should develop speeder response plans and make them part of the patient safety culture. Institutions offering health care professionals courses should pay more attention to the subject of patient safety. The Healthcare wing of the government, together with healthcare institutions, should continuously train healthcare professionals on the importance of “patient safety” and the various ways of responding to alarms. Health professionals should be encouraged to report errors made during diagnosis or treatments to improve patient safety.

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