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ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE AMONG STUDENT NURSES STUDYING IN SELECTED COLLEGE.

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ABSTRACT

A Descriptive study is to assess the knowledge regarding Ebola virus Disease among Nursing students. The finding reveals that among 30 samples none had adequate knowledge 15 (50%) of them had moderately adequate knowledge and 15 (50%) had inadequate knowledge. The study revealed that there was no significant association between the level of knowledge regarding Ebola virus disease among student nurses and the selected demographic variables.

INTRODUCTION

The virus has infecting the people from time to time, leading to outbreaks in several places in African countries. Scientists do not know where Ebola virus came from. Based on same viruses, they believe EVD is animal-borne, with bats or non-human being. Infected animals carrying the virus can transmit to other animals, like apes, monkeys, duikers and humans. The virus was first spreads to the people by direct contact with the blood, body fluids and tissues of animals. Ebola virus then spreads to other people through direct contact with the body fluids of a person who is sick with or died from EVD. This can occur when a person touches these infected body fluids or objects that are contaminated with them. The virus then gets into the body through broken skin or mucous membranes in the eyes, nose, or mouth. People can get the virus through sexual contact with someone who is sick with or recovered from EVD. The viruses can carryon by certain body fluids, like semen, after recovery from the illness [3].

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There are no approved drugs or vaccines are not available to treat EVD, although experimental vaccines and therapeutics being tested. Recovery seems to depend upon the how much amount of virus the person exposed to, how early the treatment is started, and the patient's age and immune response. Chances of survival can be improved with early supportive care including maintaining body fluids and electrolytes and monitoring blood pressure, which may allow enough time for the body's immune system to fight the virus. Younger people have better recovery rates than the older people. Those who recover develop antibodies that may last at least 10 years. Some survivors develop long-term complications, such as joint and vision problems [1].

Statement of the problem

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding ebola virus disease among student nurses studying in selected colleges at Kanyakumari district.

Need for the study

Ebola viruses cause a severe and often deadly illness known as Ebola virus disease (EVD previously referred to as Ebola hemorrhagic fever). Fatality rates during EVD outbreaks can be as high as 90 percent. Ebola

viruses produce hemorrhagic fever, a condition that also can be brought about by other types of viruses but Ebola produces one of the most lethal forms. In addition to the other symptoms of hemorrhagic fever – fever, headache, muscle pain, weakness, vomiting, and diarrhea – the more severe cases can include damage to blood vessels and extensive internal and external bleeding (hemorrhage). Mortality rates for EVD range from 25 percent to 90 percent, with an average of 50 percent. Death usually occurs as a result of shock due to fluid loss rather than blood loss[1]. The overall case fatality rate was 62.9%. Pediatric patients with younger age had a significantly higher rate of death with the highest fatality rate of 82.9% in children aged less than 5 years[4]**.** The impact this epidemic had on the world, and particularly West Africa, is significant. A total of 28,616 cases of EVD and 11,310 deaths were reported in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. There were an additional 36 cases and 15 deaths that occurred when the outbreak spread outside of these three countries. The table below shows the distribution of cases and deaths in countries with widespread transmission and countries affected by the epidemic[3].

Objectives

To assess the level of knowledge regarding ebola virus disease among student nurses.

To find out the associate between the level of knowledge on ebola virus disease among student nurses with selected demographic variables

Methodology

Quantitative research approach was adopted for this study using descriptive research design. Student nurses are selected using Non probability convenient sampling technique. The samples were selected based on the criteria of sample selection. After getting initial permission the investigator got informed consent from the participants and proceeded with data collection with a given period of time. The investigator distributed the structured questionnaire to the participants. The data was collected regarding demographic variables and the structured questionnaire on ebola virus disease the scoring was given based on the answer. Ethical principle, justice were maintained during and after the course of data collection. Score interpretation of the tool

Sl. No	Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1	Adequate knowledge	15-20	75-100%
2	Moderately adequate knowledge	8-14	40-70%
3	Inadequate knowledge	0-7	0-35%

RESULTS

Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables

Regarding age in years 16 (53.33%) belongs to 20 years and 14 (46.66%) were 21 years. In regards of gender all 30 (100%) were female.

In relation to religion 7 (23.33%) were Hindu, 21 (70%) were Christian and 2 (6.66%) were Muslim.

According to the area of residence 10 (33.33%) were from urban area, 16 (53.33%) were in rural and 4 (13.33%) were in semi urban area.

Corresponding to the father's education 4 (13.33%) were illiterate,, 23 (76.66%) were completed school education, 1 (3.33%) were diploma, 2 (6.66%) were graduate and no one is postgraduate.

With regard to mother's education no one is illiterate, 27 (90%) were completed school education, no one are diploma, 2 (6.66%) were graduate and 1 (3.33%) were postgraduate.

According to the occupation of the father 3 (10%) were unemployed, 14 (46.66%) were self Employed, 11 (36.33%) were private employee and 2 (6.66%) were government employee.

Regarding the occupation of the mother 16 (53.33%) were unemployed, 10 (33.33%) were self Employed, 4 (13.33%) were private employee and no one is postgraduate.

In relation to the previous knowledge regarding ebola virus disease 8 (26.66%) got information through newspaper, 8 (26.66%) through television, 7 (23.33%) through internet and 7 (23.33%) through social media.

Table 4.1: Frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding ebola virus disease among student nurses

Sl. No	Level of knowledge	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
1	Adequate knowledge	0	0%
2	Moderately adequate knowledge	15	50%
4	Inadequate knowledge	15	50%

Description

Table 4.1 shows the frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding ebola virus disease among student nurses.

With respect to level of knowledge, no one have adequate knowledge 15 (50%) of them had moderately adequate knowledge and 15 (50%) had inadequate knowledge.

CONCLUSION

The study is to assess the knowledge regarding ebola virus disease among student nurses using descriptive method. Data was collected by using questionnaire. The result showed that no one have adequate knowledge, 15 (50%) of them having moderately adequate knowledge and 15 (50%) have inadequate knowledge. The investigator has analyzed the data collected has come to the conclusion that the knowledge of student nurses who have average level they may require further knowledge by education.

Conflict of interest:

There is no conflict of interest

Source of fund: Self

Ethical clearance:

The proposed study was conducted after the approval of the ethical committee. Assurance was give to the study participants regarding the confidentiality of the data collection.

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