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An assessment of nurses' Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) of pharmacovigilance

Purpose: The objective of the study is to assess nurses' Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) of pharmacovigilance.

Methods: This is a cross-sectional study that utilizes a questionnaire to evaluate nurses' KAP of pharmacovigilance at the University Hospital of the West Indies, Mona. A sample size of 234 nurses was selected using a 95% confidence level with the raosoft online sample size calculator. Data obtained from filled questionnaires were analyzed using the SPSS 20 using descriptive and inferential measures. The chi-square test was used to test the association between two attributes at a P<0.05 significant level.

Results: 209 responses were received from 260 distributed questionnaires, giving an 80% response rate. 13.5% of the nurses had heard of the term pharmacovigilance prior to the study. 58.4% correctly stated the functions of pharmacovigilance. Results for attitude towards pharmacovigilance revealed 93.7% of the nurses felt it was a professional obligation to report Adverse Drug Reactions (ADR). 55.3% of nurses indicated they had reported an ADR. A $\chi 2$ test of independence was performed to determine an association between nurses who noted ADRs in clinical practice and nurses who reported ADRs. Results showed a significant association between these two variables, $\chi 2$ (1) = 86.642, p<0.05.

Conclusion: This study concludes that the registered nurses at UHWI had a good attitude towards pharmacovigilance, although their knowledge and practice was limited. Recommendation from the study includes instituting pharmacovigilance training programs that will improve nurses' knowledge and hopefully impact their practice.

Biography

Uchenna Obi was born in Lagos Nigeria, with a migration to Jamaica in 2007 for educational pursuits, Uchenna Obi holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the Northern Caribbean University in Mandeville Jamaica. While working as a Registered Nurse at the University Hospital of the West Indies Jamaica, he went on to obtain a Post-graduate certificate in Critical Care Nursing, together with a Master of Science degree in Applied Pharmacology from the University of the West Indies, Jamaica. Uchenna is a Registered/Critical Care Nurse who is committed to applying quality research to clinical practice for the improvement of patient outcomes and over-all health safety of the public. His research article is published in the Journal of Clinical Review & Case Reports.

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