

12th World Congress on**INDUSTRIAL HEALTH, HEALTHCARE AND MEDICAL TOURISM**

October 16-17, 2017 Dubai, UAE

Knowledge on midwifery care among nurses working at primary health centers in order to develop a learning module**Mallika Rajadurai**

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Statement of the Problem: India has 27 Million births per year; with its high maternal mortality of about 75000-50,000 maternal deaths occur every year in India. Reduction of maternal mortality is crucial. It is also a need for achieving the Millennium Development Goal 5(MDG 5). One way to tackle this problem is to have Skilled Birth Attendant at the time of delivery by training a cadre of people. This was an effort of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The knowledge on midwifery care is essential for nurses to practice safe maternal and newborn care. Therefore, the investigator designed this study in order to assess the knowledge on midwifery care among nurses in PHC in order to develop a teaching module for skilled birth.

Methodology: Survey approach and non-experimental descriptive design was used for this study. The participants of the study were 300 nurses working in 28 primary health centers of Thoothukudi Health Unit district, Tamil Nadu, India using convenient sampling. The nurses included were staff nurses, VHN and ANMs. The knowledge of nurses was assessed using a self-administered questionnaire with 50 multiple-choice questions.

Results: From 300 nurses, the majority of nurses have inadequate knowledge 296 (98.7%) and 4 (1.3%) nurses had moderately adequate knowledge in midwifery care.

Conclusion: The investigator had developed a teaching module as an outcome of the study on management of general obstetrics and newborn care including lifesaving obstetric care. This was validated by experts and will be utilized.

References

1. World health organization (2001) Fact Sheet. Maternal Mortality Estimates develop by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, Geneva.
2. National family health survey (1995) Bombay international institute of population services.

Biography

Mallika Rajadurai has started her nursing career from College of Nursing, CMC&H, Vellore, South India. She has served in Department of Health and Medical Services, Dubai for 13 years as a Clinical Nurse in the Primary Health Care. She has presented number of papers and authored book in nursing. She has experience of 45 years in nursing fraternity and has received the highest achievement award in recognition of her excellence and outstanding contribution to nursing research by the International Center for Collaborative Research, Chennai.

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