A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS AND UTILIZATION OF SAFETY MEASURES AMONG REGISTERED NURSES AT CHROMEPET

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ABSTRACT
Occupation Nurses are exposed to high level of occupational hazards. A quantitative research design utilizing a survey by mean of questionnaire registered nurses who were in direct contact with patient. They study also revealed that information on hazards / safety and support is provide to some nurses but not to all of them.

KEYWORDS: Occupational Hazards Occupational Health Nurse.

INTRODUCTION
Occupational health practice is originally from Europe following the systematic work of Bernadine in Italy at the turn of the 17th century occupational health and safety maintains and enhances employee health, improve safety and increased productivity in the work place. Therefore it promotes and maintains the highest degree of physical, mental and well-being of workers in the occupations by controlling risks.

Effective occupational health benefits the employee, employer, government and the society at large. The employee is benefiting by being able to work in a state of physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being without occupational hazards. An unsafe work place may lead to high turnover of workers which leads to more employer financial losses in recruiting more workers and loss of skills.

Needs for The Study
Namibia is a developing country, with no exception from other developing societies, which is also exposed to a high level of work related hazards among nurses. Health problems that are mainly faced by nurses in Namibia include exposed to infections such as Hepatitis, HIV and Tuberculosis and exposure to needle-stick injuries as well as the musculoskeletal injuries particularly backache. The major cause attributed to back pain among health workers in lifting patients.

Statement of The Problem
A study to assess the knowledge regarding occupational and utilization of safety measures among registered nurses at Sree Balaji Medical College & Hospital chromepet Chennai.

Objective of The Study
To assess the knowledge regarding occupational hazards and safety measures.

Operational Definition
Assess: It refers to estimating or determining or evaluating the level of understanding.

Occupational hazards: A hazard experienced in the work place.

Knowledge: It is level of understanding of nurses.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Methodology is a significant part of any research study enables the project as a blue print if research undertaking.

Research Design: Non-experimental research design.

Research Approach: Descriptive survey.

Selection of Area
The area selected for research study was sree balaji medical college and Hospital.

Selection of Sample
For the 30 adults (female) samples were taken from sree balaji medical college and hospital chromepet.
Construction of Questionnaire
Keeping in view the basic objective of the study interview schedule was prepared to elicit the knowledge of the nurses regarding the hazards.

Inclusion Criteria
The study includes adolescent boys and girls
- Between the age group of 20-50
- Who belongs to sree balaji college of nursing
- Able to communicate in English
- Who are all willing to participate

Exclusion Criteria
The study excludes the participants
- Who are sick ill during the data collection time.
- Age below 20 and above 50 years.
- Those who are not cooperative

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Majority of 46.7% of them belongs to the age group of 26 to 30 years, 36.6% of them were belongs to age group of 20 to 24 years, 16.7% of them belongs to age group of 31 to 35 years.

Knowledge of Adult on Occupational Hazards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Level of Knowledge</th>
<th>Number of People</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Majority 17(56.6%) of nurses inadequate knowledge, 12(40%) had moderate knowledge and 1 (3.34%) of nurses had adequate knowledge regarding occupational hazards.

CONCLUSION
The study findings revealed that
- Majority of 46.7% of them belongs to the age group of 26-30 years, 36.6% of them were belongs to age group of 20-24 years, 16.7% of them belongs to age group of 31-35 years.
- Majority of 96.5% them were female and 3.5% of them were male.

Recommendation
- The samples study can be conducted in colleges.
- Large samples size would be included

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