ORIGINAL ARTICLE

NURSES' KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE IN AL-NASIRIYAH CITY

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Marwa Jabbar, Israa Dheyaa, Khulood Abdulmahdi, Ghofran Awda
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AL-NASIRIYAH, IRAQ

ABSTRACT

The aim: The present study aims is to assess nurses knowledge between men and women concerning for coronary artery disease patient in AL-Nasiriyah City hospitals, and also to measure the percentage of these knowledge.

Materials and methods: A descriptive study design to achieve the objectives of the study. The study has been conducted upon non-probability (purposive) sample of (175) nurses. All nurses who work at medical department were selected based on the study criteria. The questionnaire has been adopted to meet and achieve the objectives of the study. The questionnaire consists of two parts: part one demographic characteristic for students; part two consists of Nurses' knowledge toward coronary artery disease scales. The Validity of the questionnaire has been determined through a panel of experts; Reliability of the Questionnaire was developed by pilot study. The data were analyzed by using (SPSS ver. 24) through the application of descriptive statistics.

Results: The results of the study show that the overall nurse's knowledge concerning coronary artery disease majority of the sample have low knowledge with percentage 70%.

Conclusions: The study concluding that most gender of the sample is male and most members of the sample have low knowledge of coronary artery disease CAD. The study recommends creating an educational program for newly appointed nurses to increase their knowledge, emphasis on the center for continuing education by conducting continuous courses on coronary artery disease, migrating certificates to a higher certificate through the distinguished channel and increasing their academic achievement

KEY WORDS: Nurses, knowledge, coronary artery disease (CAD)

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INTRODUCTION

Coronary artery diseases (CAD), also known as coronary heart disease(CHD) or heart disease (HD) (Wilson and Douglas, 2015) and ischemic heart disease (IHD) [1]. CAD is the most common type of cardiovascular disease (CVD), contributed approximately half of all CVD deaths worldwide. CAD is an important public health problem, among adults with a high morbidity and mortality, and it causes a substantial economic burden to societies [2].It is the leading cause of death for both men and women. More than half of the deaths due to heart disease in 2015 were in men. Each year about 630,000 Americans die from heart disease that's one in every four deaths, it is killed about 366,000 people in 2015.In the United States, every 40 seconds someone has a heart attack. Each minute, more than one person in the United States dies from a heart disease-related event [3]. CAD is the most common type of cardiovascular diseases & it is the major causes of death approximately 4 million deaths resulting from MI occur around the world annually. Every year about 1.25 million infarctions occur in the United States, 50,000 of which culminate in death [3]. Coronary Artery Disease could lead to heart attacks [4]. The hospitalization rate of the patients with CAD has also increased in the recent years, indicating the increasing incidence and recurrence rates of this disease. Despite hopes in reduction of mortality, the sharp increase in patients' admission is becoming a growing concern [5]. In Iraq, the number of CAD is increased as a health problem according to hospitals morbidity data provided by Iraqi ministry of health in 2004 shows a 65% Increase of the hospital admission due to coronary heart disease and smoke. More than

Table I. Socio-demographic variables descriptive statistics of the nurses

Items	Rating	F.	%
Age	20-29	80	45.7
	30-39	57	32.6
	40 and above	38	21.7
	Total	175	100.0
Gender	Male	98	56.0
	Female	77	44.0
	Total	175	100.0
Level of qualification	Preparatory	52	29.7
	Institute	74	42.3
	College	49	28.0
	Total	175	100.0
Years of experiences in nursing	Less than 2 years	61	34.9
	2-10	89	50.9
	11 and above	25	14.3
	Total	175	100.0

Table II. Assessment of nurses' knowledge levels toward CAD

Items	Rating	F.	%	M.S	Ass.
Coronary arteries arise from…	Incorrect	78	44.6	.55	M
	Correct	97	55.4		
	Total	175	100.0		
Coronary artery are branches into…	Incorrect	66	37.7	.62	M
	Correct	109	62.3		
	Total	175	100.0		
Result of accumulation of plagues on the myocardial arteries are called	Incorrect	66	37.7	.62	M
	Correct	109	62.3		
	Total	175	100.0		
Ischemic coronary arteries mean…	Incorrect	54	30.9	.69	H
	Correct	121	69.1		
	Total	175	100.0		
Clinical manifestation of coronary artery disease is in from of…	Incorrect	66	37.7	.62	M
	Correct	109	62.3		
	Total	175	100.0		
Acute chronic coronary arteries syndrome…	Incorrect	104	59.4	.41	M
	Correct	71	40.6		
	Total	175	100.0		
is a state that affecting heart muscle and causing it is failure leading to impaired cerebral blood supply causing death…	Incorrect	103	58.9	.41	M
	Correct	72	41.1		
	Total	175	100.0		
Rarely fatty deposits forming less than from the artery cavity cause coronary artery blockage symptom…	Incorrect	126	72.0	.28	L
	Correct	49	28.0		
	Total	175	100.0		
Risk factors that can be controlled are…	Incorrect	109	62.3	.38	M
	Correct	66	37.7		
	Total	175	100.0		
Risk factors that can be uncontrolled are…	Incorrect	133	76.0	.24	L
	Correct	42	24.0		
	Total	175	100.0		
symptoms of coronary artery disease are started when percentage of obstruction is…	Incorrect	120	68.6	.31	L
	Correct	55	31.4		
	Total	175	100.0		
Diagnosis of coronary artery diseases by risk assessment through…	Incorrect	72	41.1	.59	M
	Correct	103	58.9		
	Total	175	100.0		
A test for heart function…	Incorrect	72	41.1	.59	M
	Correct	103	58.9		
	Total	175	100.0		
priorities of nursing intervention of coronary artery patients during pain are…	Incorrect	60	34.3	.66	M
	Correct	115	65.7		
	Total	175	100.0		
priorities of nursing intervention of coronary artery patients through…	Incorrect	61	34.9	.65	M
	Correct	114	65.1		
	Total	175	100.0		

Encourage patient to…	Incorrect	133	76.0	.24	L
	Correct	42	24.0		
	Total	175	100.0		
Tell the patient routes of treatment are necessary through…	Incorrect	30	17.1	.83	H
	Correct	145	82.9		
	Total	175	100.0		
Goal of nursing intervention of coronary artery patients is…	Incorrect	157	89.7	.10	L
	Correct	18	10.3		
	Total	175	100.0		
The patient can use simple activities gradually after…	Incorrect	126	72.0	.28	L
	Correct	49	28.0		
	Total	175	100.0		
Encourage the patient to…	Incorrect	42	24.0	.76	H
	Correct	133	76.0		
	Total	175	100.0		

Table III. Overall nurses' knowledge toward CAD

	Rating	Frequency	Percent
Overall Knowledge	Low	49	27.8
	Moderate	121	68.8
	High	6	3.4
	Total	175	100.0

a fivefold increase in outpatient visits with the same diagnosis between 1989 and 1999 [6], and the number of patients who are admitted to Iraqi hospitals in 1989 was 9487 and this number increased in 2010 to 19963 patients [7].

THE AIM

The present study aims is to assess nurses knowledge between men and women concerning for coronary artery disease patient in AL-Nasiriyah City hospitals, and also to measure the percentage of these knowledge.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Descriptive, cross sectional research design is used in this study to assess nurse's knowledge about coronary artery disease. A total of 175male and female nurses were selected using purposive sampling technique to reduce the sampling error and enhance the representation of target population, all these nurses who work at medical department were selected based on the study criteria, and after obtaining consent from them. Study was conducted at Al-Nasiriya city hospitals. A questionnaire has been adopted from [8] to meet and achieve the objectives of the study. The questionnaire consists of two parts; part one demographic characteristics and part two consist of Nurses' knowledge toward coronary artery disease scales. As validity is concerned with the extent to which an instrument corresponds. The content validity of instrument was established through a panel of (5) experts from different specialties. The results of the review of the questionnaire by the experts revealed that all of the experts agree that 20 items of the study instrument are clear and adequate for the measurement of the phenomenon. The internal consistency of the instrument was determined through the computation of Alpha Correlation Coefficient (Cronbach's Alpha) and the result was high 0.8 it reflects high level of internal consistency and the instrument is reliable and can be applied.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to demographic characteristics of the nurses, table (I) shows that about half of the nurses in the study have ages ranging between 20 and 29, this finding agrees with that of [9] who stated that the participants who were age between 25- 30 years-old constitute the majority. And almost all of the nurses are men gender; this finding is supported by Al-Ftlawy (2010) who stated that the males were more than females [10]. In addition, the highest percent of them have graduated from institute; also Jissir (2015) [11] has reported in his research that associate degree of nurses constitute the majority of participated nurses and more than other groups. Lastly, regarding the years of experience in nursing, the study finding indicated that the highest percentage of nurses in the study group between 2-10 years of experiences. This finding was congruent with that of Al-Ftlawy (2010) who concluded that the years of experience in nursing were 1-9 years which represents the highest percentage of nurses [10]. On the other hand, and concerning levels of knowledge of nurses and as knowledge about coronary artery disease is crucial to nurses' previous studies have showed that nurse's knowledge about coronary artery disease is not high it may be low or moderate as what has been found by this study (table 2 and 3). In fact, there are many factors that effect on nurse's knowledge it may related to some aspects of demographic data like residency, age, etc. [12-13]. Level of qualification or the academic degree is the primary source for building a body of knowledge, results of this study revealed that only (28%) are graduated from college and have baccalaureate degree while the rest (72%) of the nurses are preparatory or institute, this result may explain the difference in level of knowledge which is reflected moderate and low [14].

In this study this level of knowledge is may related to level of qualification and years of experience, in this study nurses' years of experience were 2-10 to half of them followed by 2 years of experience or less which can result in less knowledge that could gained from cumulative experience [15-16].

CONCLUSIONS

Study concluded that the majority of respondents are in the age group 20-29 and most of the sample participants are males in addition, most of the sample members have academic attainment institute and Most of them have 2-10 years of experience. According to their knowledge there was a low level of knowledge of nurses about coronary artery disease CAD despite the fact that most of them are graduated from college or institute.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations of this study based on the result and conclusions are: first, it is a necessity to Create an educational program for newly appointed nurses to increase their knowledge, second, Emphasis on the Center for Continuing Education by conducting continuous courses on coronary artery disease, third, migrating certificates to a higher certificate through the Distinguished channel and increasing their academic achievement.

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ORCID and contributionship:

Marwa Jabbar: 0000-0002-3429-388X [A-F]
Israa Dheyaa: 0000-0003-3655-8658 [A-F]
Khulood Abdulmahdi: 0000-0002-0330-2747 [A-F]
Ghofran Awda: 0000-0002-2612-615X [A-F]

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The Authors declare no conflict of interest.

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR

Marwa Jabbar
National University for Science and Technology
Nasiriyah-Al-Mortatha Street, Nasiriyah, Iraq
e-mail: marwa-j.saiwan@nust.edu.iq

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