



# International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecological Nursing

E-ISSN: 2664-2301  
P-ISSN: 2664-2298  
IJOGN 2020; 2(1): 10-11  
Received: 10-11-2019  
Accepted: 12-12-2019

**A Singh**  
Principal Govt. College of  
Nursing, Indore, Madhya  
Pradesh, India

## Knowledge assessment of nursing personnel about sexually transmitted diseases

**A Singh**

### Abstract

In India, Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI) including Sexually transmitted Diseases (STDs) produce a huge disease burden. Nursing staff plays a major role in prevention of STI/RTIs. So this study was conducted aimed to know the knowledge about STIs/RTIs of nursing personnel of a tertiary care hospital. 100 nursing professionals were supervised for practice and interrogated for attitude and knowledge as per a semi-structured schedule. It was found that overall mean score of nurses was 56% and only 52% had scores passing marks ( $\geq 50\%$ ). Although this knowledge about STI/RTI was not found to be associated with religion, caste, type of family and socio-economic status but it was found to be associated with sex, marital status and education of nurses. It was also found in this study that gap of training decreases the knowledge and number of training increases the knowledge. It was found to be associated with department where the nurses were working. So all the nurses irrespective of place of posting should be given refresher trainings at regular intervals.

**Keywords:** Reproductive duct infections diseases, STDs, knowledge, nursing personnel

### Introduction

RTIs are a significant public health problem as they cause widespread morbidity and mortality in men and women, especially of reproductive age<sup>[4, 5]</sup>. In developing countries, RTI/STIs are the second or third most common public health problem of young people. District Level Household Survey-3 survey reports 18.3% prevalence of symptoms of RTI in India.

The nursing personnel play an important role in medical science specially in identification and prevention of STDs and Evidence suggests that nurses can struggle to care for patients with sexually transmitted infections in a non-judgmental way. Due to the severe consequences and other associated morbidities, early detection and treatment of RTIs and STIs is important<sup>[1]</sup>. Nurses, who see clients in a variety of acute and community settings, have a unique opportunity to discuss STDs and their prevention. However, nurses must retain knowledge that is up-to-date on each of these diseases. Nurses need to take the lead in evaluating their clients' risk of acquiring STDs and tailor specific preventative techniques to the individual needs uncovered.

### Methodology

A descriptive observational study was conducted to know the knowledge of nursing personnel regarding STI.

For the study, sample size was calculated 100 health care personnel at 95% confidence limit and 20% relative allowable error assuming a correct knowledge in 50% of nursing personnel. For proper representation nursing personnel of tertiary care hospital, 10 nursing personnel were selected randomly from each of ten identified major departments, i.e. Medicine, Surgery, ENT, Ophthalmology, Gynecology, Pediatrics, Plastic surgery, Cardio-thoracic, Neurosurgery and Urology.

Semi-structured schedule was having two major parts.

Part (1) includes personnel's information regarding socio-demographic data, professional experience etc.

Part (2) consist of questions regarding STI is selected from modules of NACO for nursing personnel training, consisting of 2 sections. Section 'A' has 10 questions in 'True' or 'False' and Section 'B' has 15 questions. Thus 25 questions each carry 4 marks, so total marks questionnaire was of 100 marks.

**Corresponding Author:**  
**A Singh**  
Principal Govt. College of  
Nursing, Indore, Madhya  
Pradesh, India

Data thus collected were compiled in Microsoft Excel in the form of master chart. These data were analyzed and inferred with the help of Microsoft Excel 2007 and statistical software Primer Version 6. Results were expressed in percentage of marks obtained and mean marks obtained in various groups. For the significance of difference in proportions 'Chi-square' test<sup>[8]</sup>. For significance 'p' value  $\leq 0.05$  was considered as significant

### Results

Surveyed nursing personnel in this study were having mean age 38.6 yrs ranging from 23 to 59 years with slight female predominance, mean RTI training number 0.6 ranging from 0 to 4, mean years from last training 0.75 years (8 months) ranging from 0.25 to 4 years and mean professional years 16.11 years ranging from 0.25 years (3 months) to 36 years. Mean knowledge score of nursing personnel was 56% ranging from 8 to 96% and 52 % were found passed when  $\geq 50\%$  scores were considered as pass.

### Discussion

In this present study surveyed nursing personnel were having mean age 38.6 yrs ranging from 23 to 59 years along with slight female predominance. Mean RTI/STI training number 0.6 ranging from 0 to 4, mean years from last training 0.75 years (8 months) ranging from 0.25 to 4 years and mean professional years 16.11 years ranging from 0.25 years (3 months) to 36 years. Nyamathi *et al.*<sup>[9]</sup> have well comparable observations, who conducted a study in a tertiary-care public hospital in Delhi, India where age of participants ranged between 25 and 58 years of age ( $m = 41$ ,  $SD = 8.7$ ) but all participants were female, and most (90%) were married, 25% had completed higher secondary, 64% had completed schooling up to senior secondary (10+2), 10% had completed graduate degrees; few (approximately 1%) had completed post-graduate coursework. They also reported that mean total nursing work experience of the participants was 16.4 years ( $SD = 8.7$ ).

### Conclusions

Nurses were lacking in knowledge about STI/RTI even so that about half of nurses could not get even 50% of scores. Although this knowledge about STI/RTI was not found to be associated religion, caste, type of family and socio-economic status but it was found to be associated with sex, marital status and education of nurses. It was also found in this study that gap of training decreases the knowledge and number of training increases the knowledge. It was found to be associated with department where the nurses were working. So all the nurses irrespective of place of posting should be given refresher trainings at regular intervals.

### References

1. World Health Organization. Sexually Transmitted and Other Reproductive Tract Infections. Geneva: World Health organization, 2005.
2. Desai G, Patel R. Incidence of reproductive tract infections and sexually transmitted diseases in India: Levels and differentials. *J Fam Welf.* 2011; 57:48-60.
3. Balamurugan SS, Bendigeri N. Community-based study of reproductive tract infections among women of the reproductive age group in the urban health training centre area in Hubli, Karnataka. *Indian J Community Med.* 2012; 37:34-8.

4. Sharma S, Gupta B. The prevalence of reproductive tract infections and sexually transmitted