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Assessment of knowledge and attitude about occupational safety among nursing students

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Introduction: Issue of occupational safety is neglected in Nepal. Human resources for nursing care is very widely used manpower with high demand world-wide. Nepalese nurses are working in diversified working environment all over the world. Nursing profession is in higher risk compared to other profession. Nepal nursing council is regulating body for design and implementation of nursing curriculum in nursing school in Nepal. In existing curriculum, there is need of certain credit hours for nursing students. There is need of assessing the knowledge among nursing students before revising the curriculum.

Methodology: The study was based on descriptive design, conducted in June, July and August 2014. 160 students studying in Nepal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology (NIMST) were involved in the study. A set of self-administered questionnaire were distributed to 160 students and asked them to fill in classroom setting. Filled questionnaire were collected back after 1 hour of fill up time. Information obtained were filled up in excel and analyzed descriptively.

Result: All the students were female with mean age of 19 years. About one thirds (69%) of the students have heard about the occupational safety during their course work at college and hospital. Only one fourth (25%) of them were found to be aware about occupational hazard of nursing profession. About one fifth (20%) of them were found to be not sure that whether they will adopt nursing profession or not in future due to its occupational hazard. Almost all (93.6%) of the students were found to have felt of contents about occupational safety in their curriculum.

Conclusion: Their knowledge about occupational safety among nursing students is very miserable. There is need of an urgent action to incorporate the contents of occupational safety in nursing curriculum.

Biography

G C Khagendra Bikram has completed his Bachelors of Public Health from Pokhara University, Nepal. He has been working as Medical and Sales representative in Nepal for Sun Rise Drug Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. He is working as Active Member of Nepal Medical and Sales Representative Association. He has assisted in different conferences and workshops at national and international level as research assistant. He has involved in different seminars about Occupational Health as a Co-Author of different scientific articles. He is the Trainee Advocate for advocating the rights of pharmaceutical marketing workers regarding the occupational health and safety in Nepal. Apart from the medical marketing, he has also been involved as an Instructor in Nepal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology. He was awarded as Best Instructor by students' welfare council at NIMST College. He has been involved in different health research projects as Research Associate in NIMST College. He has written more than three scientific research articles.

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