Role of microbiology in nursing

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Knowledge of microbiology helps a nurse in every field of health care. Nurses should have known about the mode of spread of infection. This knowledge would help a nurse to look for specific control of the spread of infection. Knowledge of medical microbiology would help them to understand the difference between the causative organism of disease and patient’s normal flora. A nurse must know procedures used to create and maintain a sterile field in the hospitals based on the knowledge of microbiology. The principles of asepsis are also based on microbiology. The proper disposal of biomedical waste is equally important and knowledge of microbiology helps in this field also. The nurse must recognize the importance of the proper collection of specimens to be sent for bacteriological examination to obtain accurate results. One of the most important things is hand washing which helps in reducing surgical infections and transmission of diseases in hospitals. Nurses also play an important role in immunization to control threats of various diseases. She/he follows not only aseptic techniques but also uses sterile equipment while looking after such patients. It is the duty of a nurse to ensure that the atmosphere of the operation theatre is free of microorganisms. The nurse can play a role while the female needs antenatal care, help during delivery or after giving birth for six weeks called as puerperium. A nurse must have sound knowledge of the sterilization methods and controls of sterilization so that good quality could be maintained while providing nursing care.

Biography

Anju Dhir will complete her PhD from Maharaj Vinayak Global University, Amer, Jaipur in 2018. She is teaching in a nursing institute at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India, which is an institution for nursing students from graduate to postgraduate levels. She has published more than 12 papers in reputed journals, one e-book on ‘Indian Common Krait’ and an offline book on Microbiology for degree students of nursing.

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