

Effectiveness of pocket reference on arterial blood gas analysis among the staff nurses working in critical care units

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Abstract

Introduction: Nurses play an important role in early detection of high-risk clients with acid-base imbalance in critical care units. **Methods:** Present study was conducted using Pre - Experimental one group Pre-test and Post-test design. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 30 staff nurses from different areas of critical care units. Demographic Proforma, Knowledge Questionnaire, and Observational Checklist were used to collect the data. **Results:** It was found that majority (70%) was female, majority (60%) belongs to the age group of 26 to 35 years, and most of them (46.66%) were with B Sc nursing qualification. Significant difference was found between Pre-test and Post-test knowledge scores ($t(29) = 9.50$) at 0.05 level of significance. Significant difference was found between the pre-test and post-test skill of staff nurses in arterial blood gas (ABG) analysis for both Strip I: Respiratory Acidosis ($t(29) = 14$) at 0.05 level of significance and Strip II: Respiratory Alkalosis ($t(29) = 20.2$) at 0.05 level of significance. There was moderate positive correlation ($r = 0.77$) between the Pre-test knowledge and Pre-test skill regarding ABG Analysis. **Conclusion:** Study findings indicate that Pocket Reference was effective in improving the knowledge and skill of staff nurses on ABG Analysis.

Key Words: Pocket Reference, ABG Analysis, Staff nurses, Critical Care Units.