Effectiveness of Self Instructional Module (SIM) on knowledge regarding management of selected poisoning in children among paediatric staff nurses

Irene Freeda, Smitha Bobby, Sunitha Solomon-Calvin*, Sophia Vinitha

Email: sunitha123_baby@yahoo.co.in

Abstract

Background: Acute paediatric poisoning is a common medical emergency. Poisoning is one of the major causes of death among infants and toddlers in developing countries like India. Poisoning in children requires emergency intervention but, in every instance, medical evaluation is necessary to initiate appropriate action. Objectives: To assess the effectiveness of self-instructional module (SIM) on knowledge; Method: A quantitative, one group pre-test-post-test design was carried out among the purposive sample of 60 paediatric staff nurses. A structured knowledge questionnaire was used to assess the pre-test and post-test knowledge. A SIM was given on the day of the pre-test. Post-test was done on the 8th day. Result: In the pre-test, 71.7% (43 out of 60) subjects had inadequate knowledge scores and in the post-test 68.3% gained adequate knowledge (41 out of 60). This indicates the effectiveness of SIM in enhancing the knowledge of paediatric staff nurses. An association was found between the mean pre-test knowledge with their selected socio-demographic variables such as age ($\chi^2= 9.13$), gender ($\chi^2= 5.24$), religion ($\chi^2= 6.48$), professional qualification ($\chi^2= 6.65$), area of work ($\chi^2= 18.55$), total years of experience ($\chi^2= 11.30$) and experience in managing a child with poisoning ($\chi^2=5.63$). Conclusion: There was a remarkable difference between mean pre-test and post-test knowledge level of staff nurses on the management of selected poisoning in children concluding that the SIM was effective.

Key words: children, emergency, knowledge, staff nurses, poisoning, self-instructional module

Introduction

Children are miniature adults; they are curious and explore the world using their senses. They learn by trying or imitating what they see. Consequently, home and its surroundings become a dangerous place. Among ‘accidental’ death in children under the age of six, poisoning has been notified as a fifth leading cause and it is one of the main reasons children are seen in emergency rooms (World Health Organization, 2009). In 2010, there were 1,619 deaths in Karnataka, India due to accidental poisoning in children. Early detection and management of poisoning represent a principal emergency nursing competency. A thorough nursing assessment during poisoning episodes makes an elemental difference in child improvement. It is important for the nurse to have a thorough knowledge regarding all aspects of the management of poisoning in children (Frithsen & Simpson, 2010).

A study was done to evaluate the profile of different types of poisoning as well as the immediate