ABSTRACT

Title: “Effect of Nursing Audit and Competency based education regarding Infection Control Practices during Intranatal period on Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of Nursing Personnel working in Labour Rooms”.

Sepsis is the third most leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity after post partum hemorrhage and pregnancy induced hypertension. It is the highlighting question regarding the quality of obstetrics care given to women. The effectiveness of competency based education on infection-control practices during intranatal period in the labour room is directly reflects the quality of obstetric care. Unavailability of clean equipment and material, turnover of patient, inadequate knowledge of health care personnel and unhygienic delivery practices all these factors contributes to the infection during and after childbirth. Keeping this point in view the objective of the study, is to assess the effect of Nursing Audit and Competency Based Education on Infection control practices on knowledge, Attitude and Practices of nursing personnel.

Research Methodology: Quasi Experimental one group pretest post test design was used. Data was collected from 40 Public health facilities and 230 nursing personnel in selected health center by stratified random sampling. Structured knowledge questionnaire, Likert scale and observation checklist was used to collect data by interview and observation method.

Findings on Nursing Audit showed improvement after one year observation. Charts on hand washing, biomedical waste management, and segregation procedure were displayed on wall in majority of public health facilities but they were not clear and visible and also charts on Labour room asepsis and post exposure prophylaxis was not seen in any health centers labour room. These charts were provided by the researcher in all the centres, after
discussion with Medical officer and Sister Incharge. Poor elbow operating taps (18%) observed in health centers. Hand washing practices before (83%) and (80%) after seeing patients were observed\textsuperscript{13}. Decontamination practices with 5% hypochloride were poor in most of the centers. Cleaning of labour room practices also showed poor due to unavailability of multipurpose worker. Inappropriate segregation practices were observed and also waste material was not segregated properly. Handling of sharps also shoed poor, sharp containers were not labeled and filled more than 1/2 to 3/4. Significant difference is observed after Competency-based education in knowledge, attitude and practices on Infection control during intranatal period in the labour room among nursing personnel at P<0.001\textsuperscript{13}. Item wise comparisons of mean knowledge score depicts significant difference in pre test and post test knowledge score in waste management and PV Examination as P<0.001\textsuperscript{13}. Positive attitude and practices score was observed on Infection control practices in labour room of nursing personnel after intervention. Practice score on Hand washing in labour room had showed poor practices in pre test where as 78.70% had in good practices score in post test I and II. There was significant difference seen before, immediate and after one year of applying competency based education on hand washing, Per vaginal examination, conducting safe delivery and cleaning and waste management as p value <0.005 level of significance\textsuperscript{13}.

**Conclusion:** Policy and procedure regarding infection control should be established at all health centers. Formulation of regulations on infection control practices should be effectively performed to take appropriate measures. Orientation sessions should be planned for nursing personnel including the health care staffs at the time of recruitment and in-service training in six monthly intervals. Re-evaluation should be done at regular intervals. Continuous surveillance of labour room on infection control practices is essential. Competency based education on Infection control
practices in labour room was found to be effective and the study results showed there was significant increase in knowledge, attitude and practice score on infection control practices of nursing personnel.

Key Words: Nursing Audit, Competency based education, Infection control practices and intranatal period