LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE ON INDEPENDENT NURSE PRACTITIONER AMONG I YEAR M.Sc. NURSING STUDENTS AT COLLEGE OF NURSING, MADURAI MEDICAL COLLEGE, MADURAI.

Lt.O. Selvarajan [1], Ganeshwari.M[2], Jeevitha.S[3], Sakunthala. G[4], Surekha.V[5] and Sathish Rajamani[6]

[1] M.Sc. (N), Ph. D, Nursing Tutor Grade-II, College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai,

(2-5) I year M.Sc. (Nursing), Madurai Medical College, Madurai.

[6] Professor – DRIEMS University, School of Nursing – Cuttack Odisha.

ABSTRACT

Title: Assess the level of knowledge on Independent Nurse Practitioner among I year M Sc Nursing students at the College of Nursing, Madurai medical college, Madurai. **Objectives:** To determine the degree to which first-year M.Sc. in nursing students at Madurai Medical College, Madurai, are knowledgeable about Independent Nurse Practitioners and to correlate this level of knowledge with the selected sociodemographic variables of those students. This study's conceptual framework was the Modified Ludwig von Bertalanffy System Model. The study used a non-experimental descriptive design and a sample of twenty first-year M.S. in Nursing students to achieve its goal. A structured questionnaire was used, and descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. Of the 20 subjects, 9 (45 percent) had a level of knowledge that was above average, 11 (55 percent) had a level of knowledge that was above average, and none of them had a level of knowledge that was below average about Independent Nurse Practitioner. The knowledge of Independent Nurse Practitioners was found to have a mean score of 9.45, with a standard deviation of 0.12. According to the findings of this study, there was no statistically significant correlation found between the selected sociodemographic variables and the student's knowledge of Independent Nurse Practitioners in their first year of M.Sc. Nursing.

Key Notes: Independent Nurse Practitioner, level of knowledge, purposive sampling

INTRODUCTION

"Innovative nurse entrepreneurs" are nurse practitioners (NPs) that use advanced knowledge and specialized abilities to provide services that are in demand.1. By filling up the gaps in services and knowledge, these nurse practitioners improve accessibility, cost, and quality of healthcare. On the other hand, little is known about nurse practitioners' real-world experience working in private practise.

Consequently, the goal of this research was to identify the specific obstacles that nurse practitioners encounter while moving from group practise to solo practise and to explain how these obstacles are addressed. This information can help educate nurse practitioners worldwide about evidence-based care and is helpful in raising awareness of the expanding role of nurse practitioners.

The demand for primary care professionals is unbalanced due to the growing scarcity of primary care physicians. This need has been continuously addressed by nurse practitioners. In addition, health care organisations are seeing a shift towards fee-for-value services due to financial limitations, a lack of healthcare providers, the expansion of Medicaid, and the establishment of new insurance exchanges. This trend fosters the inclusion of nurse practitioners in the medical field and offers business prospects for enhancing hospital services.

The "Nurse Practitioner in Critical Care Programme" (NPCC), India's first postgraduate nursing residency programme, was launched by the Indian Nursing Council. The programme was announced on the INC website in 2017 after being approved by the Indian government and launched by the health minister. Since 2017, the NPCC programme has been implemented successfully by Manipal College of Nursing. Our graduates greatly enhance the critical care by being placed in prestigious healthcare facilities.

Graduates of the programme will be qualified for "advanced practise roles, such as clinical experts, managers, educators, and consultants," in emergency departments, specialised care units, and critical care units. They are equipped to give people receiving advanced nursing care at tertiary care facilities' critical care units. Graduates are equipped to take ownership and accountability of the treatment of patients in their care who are in critical condition.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

An Independent Nurse Practitioner (INP) is a registered nurse with advanced nursing training (usually a master's or doctoral degree, B.sc. or GNM) in diagnosing and treating common and complex medical diseases.

Independent Practitioner courses are offered at 31 colleges in India, with 10-25 students per year.In Tamil Nadu, Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, Sree Balaji College of Nursing, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, and SRM Institute of Science and Technology established Independent Nurse Practitioners in Critical Care.Sri Ramachandra Institute of

Higher Education and Research (Deemed university) began offering a 20-student Independent Nurse Practitioner course in 2019. In 2022–2023, Sree Balaji College of Nursing, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (University), and SRM Institute of Science and Technology began offering the Independent Nurse Practitioner in Critical Care course.

Indian Nursing Council believes a postgraduate programme called Nurse Practitioner in Critical Care is needed to meet the challenges and demands of tertiary health care in India, as reflected in the National Health Policy (NHP draught document 2015) to provide quality care to critically ill patients and families. INC believes that postgraduates from a residency programme with a strong clinical component and competency-based training must demonstrate clinical competence based on theoretical and evidence-based knowledge. Preceptors/mentors must upgrade their expertise and practises. Medical faculty/preceptors are encouraged to participate more in the early training. INC believes a number of clinical teaching initiatives can alleviate the critical care nursing faculty shortage. It should help build licensure policies and provide cadre posts for postgraduate critical care Nurse Practitioners in tertiary care facilities.

Objectives of the study:

1- To evaluate the degree of knowledge on Independent Nurse Practitioner among first-year M.Sc Nursing students at Madurai Medical College's College of Nursing.

2- Associating the amount of knowledge about Independent Nurse Practitioner among first-year M.Sc. nursing students at College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai with certain sociodemographic factors.

Methodology:

Research approach - Quantitative evaluative approach

Research design - Non-experimental (descriptive) research design.

Research variables - Knowledge of Independent nurse practitioner

Settings of the study - College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai

Population of the study

Target Population - I year M. Sc Nursing students

Accessible Population - I-year M. Sc Nursing students at College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College,Madurai.

Sample - I-year M. Sc Nursing students at College of Nursing, Madurai Medical CollegeMadurai, those who met the inclusion criteria.

Sample size - The sample size is 20.

Sampling technique - Non probability (Purposive) sampling technique.

Research tool and technique - The technique to be used for this study is structured administered questionnaire.

Description of the tool - The tool consists of two sections

Section A: Socio-demographic variables

Section B: Structured Administered questionnaire-Knowledge regarding Independent nurse practitioner

Section A: It consists of socio demographic variables of the subjects, such as gender, area of residence, medium of instruction in schooling, occupation of the father, mother, Family income, it a place of domicile, Type of Family, Source of information regarding Independent Nurse Practitioner, type of UG in nursing, Type of Service, Duration of Nursing service, Nursing undergraduate studied government and private college

Section B: Structured Administered questionnaire consisting of information regarding Independent nurse practitioner

Scoring procedure - It consists of 18 questions. The score 1 mark is awarded for each correct answers and0 for wrong answers

Scoring is calculated as follows:

Scores	Levels of Knowledge
1 - 6	Below Average
7 - 12	Average
13 - 18	Above Average

Data analysis

Plan for data analysis

The conversion of data obtained during the study endeavor into an interpretable and manageable form was part of the data analysis. It entailed employing statistical procedures to organize and interpret data. The invigilator created a master sheet to compare the data. For data analysis, descriptive and inferential statistics are utilized.

Descriptive Statistics

Frequency and percentage distribution was used for describing socio demographic variables.

Inferential statistics:

Chi square test was used to find out the association between knowledge on independent nurse practitioner among I year M.Sc Nursing students at College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai with their selected socio demographic variables

RESULT:

Section A:

Frequency and percentage distribution of I year M. Sc nursing students according to their selected socio demographic variables

(n = 20)

S. No	Socio-Demographic Variables		F	%
1	**Age**	a) 20-30	6	30
		b) 30-40	9	45
		c) Above 40	5	25
2	**Gender**	a) Male	2	10
		b) Female	18	90
3	**Medium of instruction in higher secondary education**	a) Tamil	15	75
		b) English	5	25
		c) Others	0	0
4	**Occupation of the father**	a) Daily wages	4	20
		b) Government employee	6	30
		c) Private employee	1	5
		d) Self-employee	9	45
5	**Occupation of the mother**	a) Daily wages	3	15
		b) Governmentemployee	2	10
		c) Private employee	1	5
		d) Self-employee	14	70
6	**Family income**	a) <5000	0	0
		b) 5001-10,000	1	5
		c) 10001-15000	3	15
		d) >15000	16	80
7	**Place of domicile**	a) Rural	8	40
		b) Suburban	4	20
		c) Urban	8	40
8	**Type of family**	a) Nuclear family	11	55

		b) Joint family	8	40
		c) Extended family	1	5
9	**Sources of information regarding Independent Nurse Practitioner**	a) Books	11	55
		b) Social media	3	15
		c) Trained nurses	6	30
10	**Type of UG in nursing**	a) Basic BSc(N)	11	55
		b) Post Basic Bsc(N)	9	45
11	**Nursing under graduation in**	a) Govt nursing college	8	40
		b) Private nursing college	12	60
12	**Nursing category**	a) Staff nurse	19	95
		b) Clinical instructor	0	0
		c) Nursing tutor	1	5
18	**Duration of nursing services**	a) <5yrs	5	25
		b) 5-8 yrs	3	15
		c) >8yrs	12	60

The data in the table is crucial in understanding the socio-demographic characteristics of first-year M.Sc nursing students. By analyzing the frequency and percentage distribution of these variables, we can gain valuable insights into the diverse backgrounds and experiences of these students. This information can be used to develop targeted programs and initiatives that cater to the unique needs of this population. In terms of age group, the majority of subjects (45%) were between 30-40 years old, while 30% were between 20-30 years old and 25% were over 40 years old. When considering gender, 90% of subjects were female and 10% were male. In terms of medium of instruction in higher secondary education, 75% of subjects studied in Tamil medium and 25% studied in English medium. Regarding the occupation of the father, 45% were self-employed, 30% were government employees, 20% were daily wage workers, and 5% were private employees. For the occupation of the mother, 70% were self-employed, 15% were daily wage workers, 10% were government employees, and 5% were private employees. In terms of family income, 80% earned more than Rs.15,000, 15% earned Rs.10001-15,000, 5% earned Rs.5001- 10000, and none earned less than Rs.5000 per month. In terms of place of domicile and family type, 55% belonged to nuclear families, 40% belonged to joint families, and 5% belonged to extended families. Regarding the source of information, 40% of subjects were from rural areas, 40% were from urban areas, and 20% were from suburban areas. Finally, 55% of subjects pursued basic BSc (N) while 45% pursued post basic BSc (N). When examining undergraduate nursing programs, 60% of the subjects completed 12 subjects in private nursing colleges, while the remaining 40% completed their studies in government nursing colleges. In terms of nursing roles, 95% of the subjects were staff nurses, with the remaining 5% serving as nursing

tutors. When it comes to the duration of nursing service, the majority of the subjects (60%) had more than 18 years of experience, while 25% had less than 5 years and 15% had 5-8 years of experience.

SECTION –B

Subject knowledge levels on independent nurse practitioner among I-year M.Sc. (Nursing) students at College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College.

Subject knowledge levels on independent nurse practitioner among I year M.Sc. (Nursing) students at College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College

(n = 20)

Level of knowledge	(f)	(%)	Mean with standard deviation
Below average	-	-	9.45 ± 0.1229
Average	11	55%	
Above average	9	45%	

The table above, Table 2, displays the percentage distribution of subjects based on their level of knowledge on independent nurse practitioners among first-year M.Sc (Nursing) students at the College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai.

The majority of the subjects, specifically 9 out of the total, representing 45%, demonstrated an above-average level of knowledge on the topic of independent nurse practitioners among first-year M.Sc (Nursing) students at the College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai. Additionally, 11 subjects, accounting for 55%, displayed an average level of knowledge, while none of the subjects exhibited a below-average level of knowledge. The average score, together with the standard deviation, of knowledge on independent nurse practitioner among first-year M.Sc (Nursing) students is 9.45 ± 0.1229.

DISCUSSION:

The primary objective of this study was to evaluate the level of knowledge among first-year M.Sc (Nursing) students at the College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai, regarding independent nurse practitioners. The majority of the participants, 11 (55%), demonstrated an

average level of knowledge, while 9 (45%) exhibited above-average knowledge of independent nurse practitioners.

The secondary objective of the study was to determine the association between the level of knowledge on independent nurse practitioners among first-year M.Sc (Nursing) students at the College of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai, and their selected socio-demographic variables. The chi-square test revealed that there was no statistically significant association between the level of knowledge on independent nurse practitioners among the participants and their selected socio-demographic variables.

In conclusion, this study provides valuable insights into the level of knowledge among first-year M.Sc (Nursing) students at the College of Nursing, Madurai MedicalHence – H1- There is no statistically significant association between the level of knowledge on independent nurse practitioner among I year M.Sc (Nursing) students,College of Nursing, Madurai Medical college, Madurai with their selected socio demographic variables. Research hypothesis is rejected and null hypothesis accepted.

CONCLUSION

According to the findings of the study, the majority of students enrolled in the first year of the Master of Science in Nursing programme had an average level of understanding on INPs. It has been determined that there is no statistically significant correlation between the amount of knowledge about Independent Nurse Practitioners and the socio-demographic factors that have been chosen.

REFERENCES

1. Annammal Jacob. (2009). (1st edi). "*Clinical Nursing Procedure Manual-The art of Nursing Practice*". New Delhi: Jaypee brothers Publications Private Ltd.

2. Alice Augustine. (2004).*"Clinical Nursing Procedure Manual"*..New Delhi: K.K.Mathew for B.I Publications Pvt Ltd.

3. Annemarie Waite.(2019). Highlighting the lived experience of nurse practitioner in independent practice. The journal for nurse practitioner. 15(10).

4. Catherine Paradiso, Robin M. Lally. (2016). Nurse Practitioner Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs When Caring for Transgender People. Australian critical care, 30 (5).

5. Ching-wen wei, Heng-Hsin Tung, et al. (2012). Nurse Practitioner in Taiwan: Today and Tomorrow. Journal of the American academy of nurse practitioners, 24 (3).

6. Joanne V Payongayong, et al., (2018). The study aimed to examine the independent

effects of knowledge, attitude, and perceived behavioral control on the engagementof APNs. Journal of health economics, 3(1).

7. Margaret Rosenzweing, Marsha Mickle. (2017). Knowledge and skill in the first yearof oncology Nurse Practitioner Practice. Oncology nurse forum, 39 (2).

8. Malar .S. Kodi, Suresh k. Sharma, et al., (2022)**.** Perceptions of Implementing Nurse Practitioner Role in India. The journal for nurse practitioner, 18 (10).

9. Nancy A Pike, Janni J Kinsler, et al., (2019). Dental test scores across the pre- SPICE-PD. Journal of nursing education and practice, 5(10).

10. Nicole Twine, Sandra Cesario. **(**2018).Conducted a qualitative study of experience of nurse practitioners transitioning into independent practice. Journal of nursing education and practice, 9(12).

11. Prasuna jelly, Rakesh Yadav, et al.,(2022). Views of nurses, obstetricians, and mother regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner. Journal of Neonatalogy, 36 (1).

12. Patricia M Sohn, et al. (2012). Nurse practitioner knowledge of complementary alternative health care. Journal of the American academy of nurse practitioners, 24 (3).

13. Rebecca Rigolosi, Susan Salmond. (2014). The journey to independent nurse practitioner practice. Journal of the American Association of nurse practitioners, 26(12).

14. Shiah-Lian Chen, Hsiu-Ying Hsu, (et al)., (2016). An exploration of the correlates of nurse practitioners clinical decision making abilities. The journal for nurse practitioner, 8 (4)

How to Cite this Article?

Selvarajan O, Ganeshwari M, Jeevitha S, Sakunthala. G, Surekha.V and Rajamani. Level Of "Knowledge On Independent Nurse Practitioner Among I Year M.Sc. Nursing Students At College Of Nursing, Madurai Medical College, Madurai". IJARMNHS, 2023. July – December; 1 (2) Page Number: 66 – 74.