

Astudyon Awareness And Practice Of Hepatitis-Bdiseaseprevention Among Nursing Staff Of Government General Hospital,Vijayawada.

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Abstract: Background- Chronic Hepatitis B is an important global health problem, with more than 350 million individuals affected worldwide. Its prevalence in India and many other parts of the Asia Pacific region is quite high. More than 10,00,000 Indian children run a lifetime risk of becoming chronic carriers and about 1,00,000 Indians die from HBV complications annually. A decision analytical model estimates that in India, vaccination would save 25 lives per 1 lakh population per year. Hence the present study has been conducted to know the awareness of nurses about this disease as they constitute people at major risk for HBV infection.

Materials and methods:Type of study: Cross sectional descriptive observational study.

Duration: 1 month 15 days.[AUGUST 1st -SEPTEMBER 15th 2017] **Study population:** Nursing staff of GGH, Vijayawada.**Study instrument:** A Pre-designed, pre-tested, closed ended questionnaire was administered to the participants after obtaining their informed consent. Data collected was analyzed using MS Excel and SPSS V.20 **Results:** Of the 198 study respondents, majority of them(45.4%) were of 35-44 years age group. Majority of them(54.5%) acquired knowledge regarding Hepatitis B from Doctors. **Conclusion-** From the above study, we come to know that even though majority of them are aware of the disease and its modes of transmission, practice of preventive measures is very low. Very low percentage of nursing staff are fully immunized which reflects the need of their proper education of the disease and motivate them to get the Hepatitis B vaccine.

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I. Introduction

Healthcare workers have a high risk of occupational exposure to many blood-borne diseases including HIV, Hepatitis-B, and Hepatitis-C viral infections. Of these, Hepatitis B is not only the most transmissible infection, but also the one that is preventable by vaccination.¹ In India, the carrier rate of Hepatitis B is higher among health care personnel. In India the prevalence of HbsAg is 3%-4.2% with over 40 million HBV carriers.¹ Every year over 1,00,000 Indians die of Hepatitis-B related complications.¹

Hence, the present study has been conducted to know the awareness among nurses about this disease as they constitute people at major risk for HBV infection.

II. Objectives

To know the level of knowledge of Hepatitis-B disease and its prevention among nursing staff

To know the proportion of nursing staff practicing various preventive measures to protect themselves from acquiring Hepatitis B infection.

III. Material And Methods

TYPE OF STUDY - Cross sectional Observational study

DURATION OF STUDY- 1 month 15 days [August 1st - September 15th 2017]

STUDY SETTING – Government general hospital, Vijayawada

STUDY POPULATION – Nursing staff of GGH

STUDY INSTRUMENT - Semi-Structured questionnaire.

METHODOLOGY

As per the information collected from nursing superintendent, the total nursing staff in GGH were found to be 222 in number

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Out of the 222 nursing staff, a total of 198 staff members who have given their verbal consent to participate in the study were included.

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Nursing staff available in all the patient care areas are included.

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Exclusion criteria- those nurses, who haven't given their consent were excluded.

IV. Result

Table 1- Socio-demographic profile of the study respondents

socio-demographic variable	percentage(%)
1. Age 25-34 35-44 45-54	72(36.4%) 90(45.4%) 36 (18.2%)
2. Educationalqualification GNM (general nursing & midwifery) B.Sc.,nursing	126(63.6%) 72(36.4%)
3. Work experience 1-5 yrs 5-10yrs 10-15yrs 16-20yrs	54(27.2%) 18(9.2%) 72(36.4%) 54(27.2%)

Table 1 shows that majority of the nursing staff (45.4%) belong to 35-44yr age group, and most of them (63.6%) have completed GNM course, majority (36.4%) have work experience of 10-15 yrs.

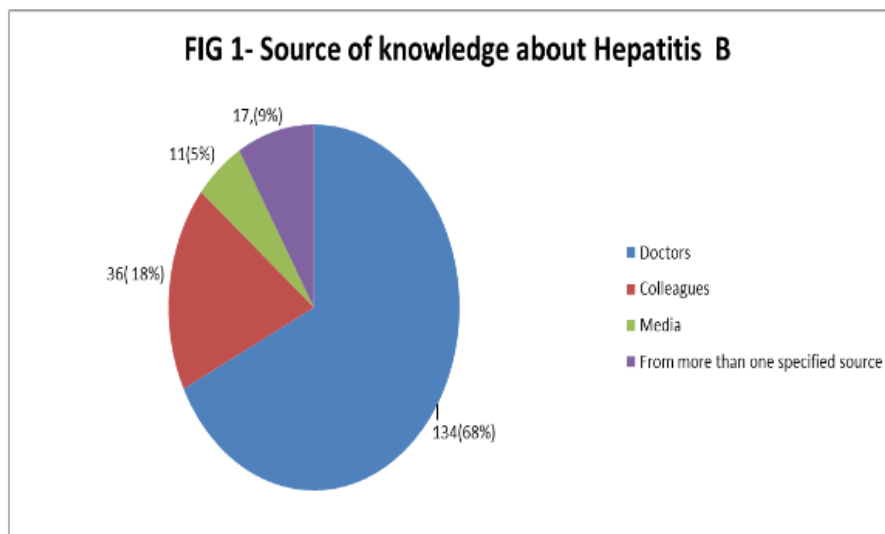


FIG 1- shows that majority of the nursing staff (68%)gained knowledge of the Hepatitis B disease from **Doctors**

FIG 2- AWARENESS ON MODES OF TRANSMISSION

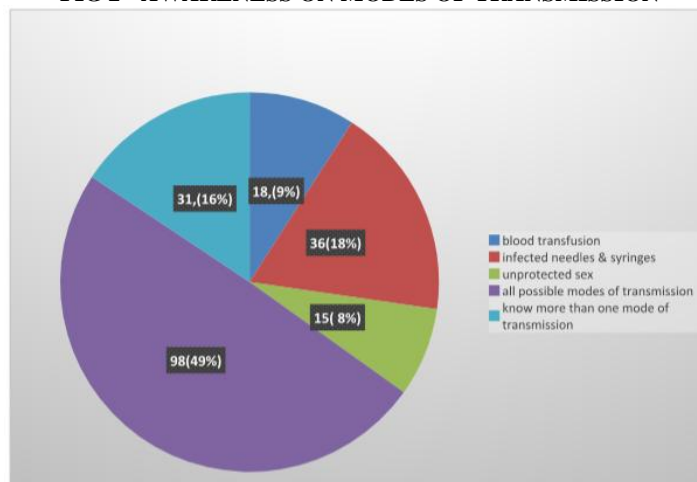


fig 2 shows that **only 49%** of the nursing staff know about **all the possible modes of transmission of Hepatitis B**.

FIG 3-AWARENESS REGARDING CORRECT VACCINATION SCHEDULE OF HEPATITIS B VACCINE

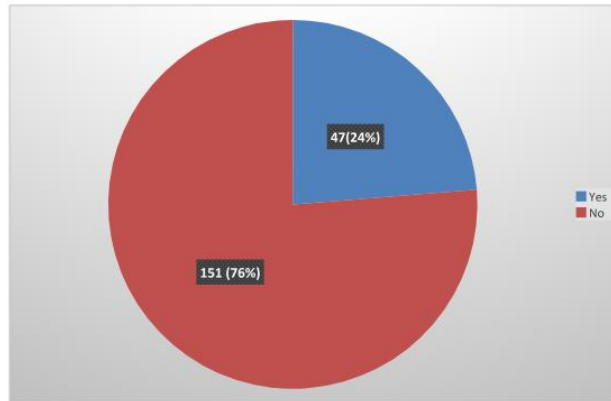


FIG 3: shows that majority (76%) of the nursing staff don't know the correct vaccination schedule of Hepatitis B

FIG 4-HEPATITIS-B VACCINATION STATUS AMONG NURSING STAFF

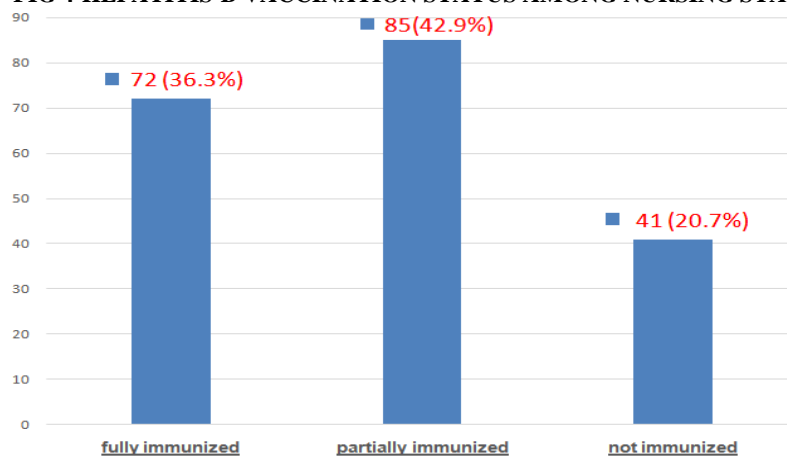


FIG 4 shows that of the 198 nursing staff ,only 72(36.3%) have taken all the 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine. It can be observed from fig 4 that **majority are partially immunized**(taken only 1 or 2 doses of vaccine.)

FIG 5- REASONS FOR NON-IMMUNIZATION (n=41)

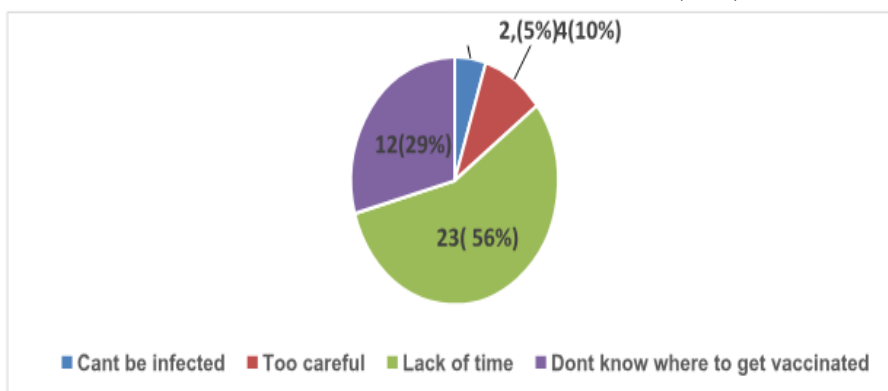


FIG 5 shows that of the 41(20.7%) non immunized nursing personnel, majority of them (56%) **said lack of time** being the reason for not taking vaccine.

FIG 6- PROPORTION OF NURSING STAFF USING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES TO AVOID VARIOUS INFECTIONS

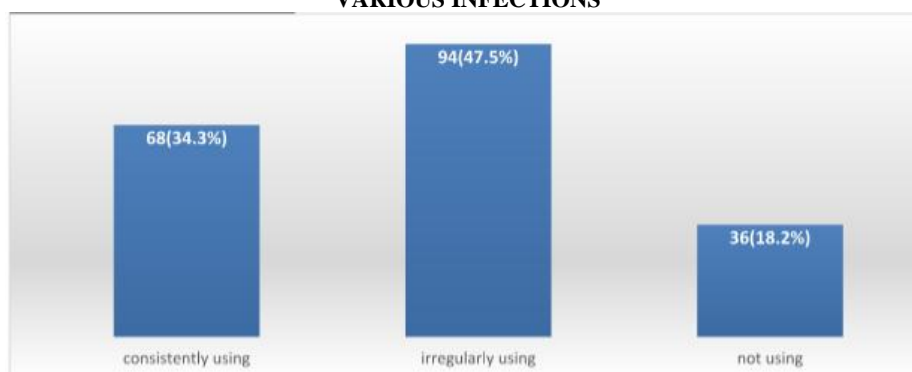


FIG 6 shows that of the study respondents only 34.3% are found to be regularly using personal protective measures like gloves and masks during patient care.

Table 2 - ASSOCIATION BETWEEN AWARENESS LEVELS OF THE DISEASE AND VACCINATION STATUS OF THE NURSING STAFF

knowledge score	fully immunized	partially immunized and not immunized	row total
knowledge > 50%	39	54	93
knowledge < 50%	33	72	105
total	72	126	198

For the above table **chi-square statistic is 2.3528** at df (1) and **p-value is 0.12**. The result is not significant at $p < 0.05$.

Interpretation- There is no significant association between awareness of the disease and vaccination status

V. Discussion

In the present study, it was observed that only 36.3% are fully immunized against Hepatitis B. Similar findings of low vaccination rates are found in a study done by Iqbal Qazi M et al² in a tertiary care hospital in North India, where only 29.9% are fully vaccinated among nursing staff. Similar results of vaccination rates were reported by Shrestha and Bhattarai³ and Imam et al. In our study it was observed that 49% of the nursing staff know about all the possible modes of transmission of Hepatitis B, which is in contrast to a similar study done in teaching hospital in north India among 195 nursing staff by Amanpreet Kaur et al.⁵ where only very few subjects (1.8%) could correctly identify all the possible route of transmission of virus.

VI. Conclusion

1. From the above study, we came to know that even though majority of them are aware of the disease and its modes of transmission, practice of preventive measures is low.
2. About one-third of nursing staff are fully immunized which reflects the need of their proper education of the disease and motivate them to get the Hepatitis B vaccine.
3. The government should take initiative of conducting regular vaccination camps and provide the Hepatitis B vaccine at subsidized rates to improve the vaccination rates.

References

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