

A Study To Assess The Level Of Knowledge On Ethical Sensitivity Regarding Patient's Care Among Lab Technicians At Smvmch, Puducherry.

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ABSTRACT

Healthcare professionals clinical practice and quality of care of patients may be influenced by ethical aspects, such as ethical and moral sensitivity, that could affect their daily clinical practice. In this sense, ethics currently has an important role in healthcare professions and especially in the physical therapy field . It is expected that healthcare professionals have extensive intellectual and practical education to commit themselves to the welfare of those in their care. A descriptive research design was adopted for this study. A quantitative research approach was adopted for this present study. Sample size consists of 60 lab technicians at the selected community area who fulfilled the criteria. Demographic data was collected. The major findings of the study shows that 54(90%) of them have moderate level of knowledge, 6(10%) of them have high level of knowledge. The chi square reveals that it is statistically association with year of experience are belongs to $p < 0.05$ significance.

Keywords: healthcare professionals, quantitative research, intellectual.

I. INTRODUCTION:

In the current time, ethical concerns exist everywhere whether it is a medical field or life science. Lab medicine and biomedical research, both fields are interconnected by laboratory testing where new results, remaining patient's blood sample, and genetic testing, etc. are some of the major ethical issues that commonly exists. Ethical issues plays very crucial role in laboratory medicine. Therefore, it is required for laboratories to strictly follows ethical principles. The field of ethics involves 'a set of principles of right conduct' and bio ethics is well defined as a branch of applied ethics that studies the philosophical, social and legal issues arising in medicine and life sciences. IFCC task force has suggested that all the area of medicine to fulfill with ethical standards and guidelines and the field of lab medicine is no exemption. Apart from laboratory staff, everyone who is involved on the way is equally responsible for maintaining laboratory ethical values. This course address all aspects of working people disabilities with special emphasis on the use of information technology to assist empowerment. Furthermore . physiotherapy has been described as a dynamic health care profession with established theoretical and widespread clinical application, which involves mainly physical approaches, in the preservation, development, and resoration of optimum physical function.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Section A- Review related to ethical sensitivity

Kara and Pickering et.al (2017) further noted in their research study that research ethics often considers the elements which concerns primary data collection than secondary data. Forexample, in their research that analysed 29 published articles between 2000 and 2015, majority of the article addressed ethical consideration such as anonymity, privacy, confidentiality, informed consent and formal ethical regulations that concerns primary data collection, and the rest consisted of other topics such as ethics and secondary data, ethics and data analysis, theory and life-writing. This became evident that though ethical considerations are associated with other kinds of data, it particularly concerns primary data collection than secondary data.

Colnerud et.al (2015) who also expressed that ethical considerations help in preventing or reducing any harm that could happen to the human participants during primary data collection. Thus, it becomes very important for the protection of human rights in any kind of research. In the current trend of research investigation, it is illegal to violate human right under the presence of research studies. The nature of ethical issues in qualitative research isso delicate as compared to quantitative research. Researchers have the highest accountability to ensure that they notice or identified and foreseeable harm and safeguard the well being of the participants. As such the actions of the researchers especially those that engage in qualitative studies, have been under high scrutiny due to the likelihood of mistreating the human participants to gain deeper findings and clarity of information generated.

SECTION B- Review related to level knowledge on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care

One the one hand, according to Weaver et al. (2008) ethical sensitivity is defined as “the capacity to decide with intelligence and compassion, given the uncertainty in a care situation, drawing as needed on a critical understanding of codes for ethical conduct, clinical experience, academic learning and self-knowledge, with an additional ability to anticipate consequences and the courage to act” Based on this definition, the central feature of ethical sensitivity is decision-making capability in the uncertainty of professional practice and involves a cognitive capacity, including feelings, knowledge and moral skills, and an interrelation process. Commonly, these situations prompt choices with a significant impact on the well-being of others. Moreover, previous studies determined that there is an important connection between ethical sensitivity and clinical competency; therefore, this concept is more than a reference to ethical attitude. Ethical sensitivity is composed of seven dimensions: reading and expressing emotions, taking the perspectives of others, caring by connecting with others, working with interpersonal and group differences, preventing social bias, generating interpretations and options, and identifying the consequences of actions and options.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE ON ETHICAL SENSITIVITY REGARDING PATIENT'S CARE AMONG LAB TECHNICIANS AT SMVMCH, PUDUCHERRY.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To analyse level of knowledge and preventive factors on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among lab technicians at SMVMCH.
- To associate the level of knowledge and preventive factors on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among a lab technicians at SMVMCH, with their selected demographic variables
- To correlate the level of knowledge and preventive factors on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among lab technicians.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- ❖ This study will help allied health science to gain knowledge regarding ethical sensitivity
- ❖ Allied health science to analyse the preventive factors on ethical sensitivity regarding patient care.

III. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

This chapter describes the research methodology followed to assess the level of knowledge regarding patient's care among lab technicians at SMVMCH , Puducherry. It deals with research approach , research design, population , sample, size , sampling technique, criteria for sample selection, plan for data collection and tools and instruments.

SECTION A : The demographic variables include age, gender, occupations, educational status, years of experience, previous knowledge , issues faced, frequency of encountering ethical problems, identifying ethical problems, and symposium.

SECTION B: A total of 10 items were compiled by using a five point likert scale. Half of the items were phrased in a negative direction, for positive item score of 5 was given for strongly agree, 4 for agree, 3 for neutral , 2 for disagree and 1 for strongly disagree. Scores for the negative items of the scale were assigned in the opposite direction (questions with * mark indicated the negative items). The summoned score of the items provided the total score of the lab technicians.

SCORING INTERPRETATION FOR THE STUDENTS KNOWLEDGE TOWARDS ETHICAL SENSITIVITY

S.NO	INTERPRETATION	SCORING
1.	High level of knowledge	50-41
2.	Moderate level of knowledge	40-31
3.	Mild level of knowledge	30-21
4.	Low level of knowledge	20-10

RESEARCH APPROACH:

A quantitative research approach was selected for the present study.

RESEARCH DESIGN:

The Descriptive Research Design was adopted for this study.

SETTING OF THE STUDY:

The study was conducted at sri manakula vinayagar medical college and hospital, kalitheerthalkuppam, Puducherry.

POPULATION:

The population is referred to as a group of people who meet the criteria that the research has established to the study. The target population of this study comprises of lab technicians working in SMVMCH, Puducherry.

SAMPLE:

Sample is a selected proportion of the defined population. It is a subset of the population. The study sample consist of lab technicians working in SMVMCH, Puducherry who fulfill the inclusion criteria.

SAMPLE SIZE

Sample size is the number of subjects involved in the study. Sample size consists of 60 lab technicians working at SMVMCH, Puducherry who meet the inclusion criteria.

SAMPLE TECHNIQUE:

Sample technique is defined as the process of selecting a group of people or the other elements with which conduct a study. Convenient sample technique is used for the present study research.

SAMPLE SELECTION CRITERIA:

Inclusion criteria:

- Only lab technicians working in SMVMCH.
- Both male and female.
- Lab technicians having work experience of more than six months in SMVMCH.
- Lab technicians who are present at the time of data collection.
- Lab technicians who are willing to participate in the study.

Exclusion criteria:

- Lab technicians having work experience less than six months in SMVMCH.
- Lab technicians who are not available at the time of data collections.
- Lab technicians who are not willing to participate in the study.

IV. RESULTS:

The study result shows that out of the People who were interviewed, Majority of the People 40(67%) were in the age group above 18-25 years. Most of the People 33(55%) were male

Most of the people 100 (100%) working as lab technician. Most of them, 52(87%) completed under graduate. Majority of them 53(43%) had 1 years' experience. Majority of them 70% had no any previous knowledge about ethical sensitivity and also 52% of them had not faced ethical sensitivity. Most of the 39% had quite difficult to ethical problem. Majority of them 62% not attend educational seminar/ symposium. Out of 60 samples, 54 (90%) of them have Moderate level of knowledge, 6(10%) of them have high level of knowledge.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage wise distribution of demographic variables[N=60]

S.NO	DEMOGRAPHIC DATA	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1.	Age		
	18- 25 years	40	66.7
	26-35 years	16	26.7
	36-45 years	4	6.67
	Above 45 years	0	0
2.	Gender		
	male	33	55
	Female	27	45
3.	Occupation		
	a) Lab technician	59	98.3
	b) radiologist	0	0
	c) dietician	1	1.67
	d) physiotherapist	0	0
4.	Educational status		
	a) 10 th	0	0
	b) 12 th	0	0
	c) UG	52	86.7
	d) PG	8	13.3
5.	Year of experience as a lab technician		
	a) Less than 1 year	43	71.7
	b) 1-5 years	16	26.7
	c) 6-10 years	1	1.67
	d) More than 10 years	0	0

6.	Previous knowledge about ethical sensitivity		
	a) yes	18	30
	b) no	42	70
7.	Faced ethical sensitivity		
	a) yes	29	48.3
	b) no	31	51.7
8.	Frequency of encountering ethical problems		
	a) daily	2	3.33
	b) weekly	5	8.33
	c) monthly	15	25
	d) rarely never	38	63.3
9.	Identifying ethical problem is		
	a) easy	10	16.7
	b) quite easy	16	26.7
	c) quite difficult	23	38.3
	d) difficult	11	18.3
10.	Attend educational seminar/ symposium		
	a) Yes	23	38.3
	b) No	37	61.7

Association on assess the level of knowledge on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among lab technicians [N = 60]

S.NO	GRAPHIC DATA	High level of knowledge		Moderate level of knowledge		X ²
		N	%	N	%	
1	Age				0	X ² =1.250 Df=2 P=.5353
	a) 18- 25 years	4	6.7	36	60	
	b) 26-35 years	1	1.7	15	25	
	c) 36-45 years	1	1.7	3	5	
	d) Above 45 years		0		0	
2	Gender		0		0	X ² =2.162 Df=1 P=.1414
	a) male	5	8.3	28	46.7	
	b) Female	1	1.7	26	43.3	
3	Occupation		0		0	X ² =.113 Df=1 P=.7368
	a) lab technician	6	10	53	88.3	
	b) radiologist		0		0	
	c) dietician		0	1	1.7	
	d) physiotherapist		0		0	
4	Educational status		0		0	X ² =.015 Df=1 P=.9041
	a) 10 th		0		0	
	b) 12 th		0		0	
	c) UG	5	8.3	46	76.7	
	d) PG	1	1.7	8	13.3	
5	Year of experience as a lab technician		0		0	X ² =7.507*

	a) Less than 1 year	1	1.7	38	63.3	Df=2 P=.0234
	b) 1-5 years	5	8.3	15	25	
	c) 6-10 years		0	1	1.7	
	d) More than 10 years		0		0	
	6	Previous knowledge about ethical sensitivity		0		
a) yes	3	5	17	28.3		
b) no	3	5	37	61.7		
7	Faced ethical sensitivity		0		0	X ² =.007 Df=1 P=.9314
	a) yes	3	5	26	43.3	
	b) no	3	5	28	46.7	
8	Frequency of encountering ethical problems		0		0	X ² =3.392 Df=3 P=.3351
	a) daily		0	2	3.33	
	b) weekly	1	1.7	4	6.7	
	c) monthly	3	5	12	20	
	d) rarely never	2	3.3	36	60	
9	Identifying ethical problem is		0		0	X ² =2.488 Df=3 P=.4775
	a) easy	2	3.3	8	13.3	
	b) quite easy	2	3.3	14	23.3	

	c) quite difficult	2	3.3	21	35	$\chi^2=2.264$ Df=1 P=.1324
	d) difficult		0	11	18.3	
10	Attend educational seminar/ symposium		0		0	
	a) Yes	4	6.7	19	31.7	
	b) No	2	3.3	35	58.3	

*- $p < 0.05$, significant and **- $p < 0.001$, highly significant

V. CONCLUSION:

Human beings are at the centre of qualitative research, and the rights of these human participants need to be respected to give out valid information. Researchers conducting a qualitative research investigation must adhere to ethical considerations such as anonymity, voluntary participation, privacy and confidentiality and freedom to walk out in a researcher. Researchers must also make sure consent forms and information sheet are given to the participants to read and agree to take part in a research investigation before conducting interviews. Adhering to ethical considerations in research demonstrate that the research investigation meets the standard of ensuring reliability and validity of findings.

NURSING IMPLICATION:

The present study can help the adult at rural area to enrich their knowledge on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among lab technicians. The findings of the study have implication related to nursing administration, nursing service, nursing research and nursing education.

NURSING ADMINISTRATION:

Nurse administrator can make necessary policies to implement the nursing care services knowledge on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among lab technicians.

NURSING SERVICES:

Nurse as a counsellor and educator should provide assess the knowledge on ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care among lab technicians. Nurse should be polite and approachable in communicating with others

NURSING EDUCATION:

- lab technicians should be provided with knowledge regarding ethical sensitivity regarding patient's care
- Nursing educator should strengthen the evidence based nursing practices among the lab technicians at smvmch.

NURSING RESEARCH:

- The findings of the study help the nurses and students to develop the inquiry by providing baseline. The general aspects of the study result can be made by further replication of the study.
- Different studies have to be conducted future to evaluate the factors associated with knowledge regarding warning signs of anaemia among adults at selected rural area
- The researcher should conduct periodic review of research findings and disseminate the findings through conferences, seminars, publications in journals and in the WorldWide Web

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on findings of the present study, the following recommendation have been made

- The same study can be conducted in patient's care among lab technicians at SMVMCH, Puducherry.
- The study can be replicated with larger samples for better generalization.

The study can be implemented at the various states of India

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