

Title: Use of an Internal Nurse Training Programme to evaluate and improve nurses' knowledge related to Pediatric Oncology Nursing: a single center experience in Dubai, UAE

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2018 studies showed cancer as the third leading cause of death in the UAE. Among these, 9.5 percent were pediatric cancer. Improving outcomes for children with cancer requires early and accurate diagnosis followed by effective treatment. A lack of nurses with continued pediatric oncology training was a major impediment to implementing quality care. There was no formal education available in the country on Pediatric Oncology. Using a need-based approach, an internal nursing training programme was planned for nurses, to enhance their knowledge with a main focus of providing high quality practice. A 20 item questionnaire was formulated to assess nurses' knowledge and attitude. The initial nursing assessment was performed in March 2019 and the post-training in August 2019. These questions were coined from a nursing perspective. The training comprised of 2 full day sessions, was repeated until all Pediatric Oncology nurses were trained. Besides, interviews were conducted with doctors and parents of oncology patients. All of the experienced oncology nurses actively participated as speakers on different topics. Total of 45 nurses participated in the pre and post tests. The improvement as reflected in below Table 1 where the mean post score rose to 13.64 from the mean pre test score 8.29. The post test score increased by a mean of 5.356. This difference was highly significant ($p<0.001$) with a standard deviation of 2.366. The Programme helped nurses to improve their knowledge. In addition, all the nurses found the session resourceful, it improved nurse-patient/family and doctor-nurse relationship.

Biography

Dr Sonia has been in leader roles as Afterhours Supervisor and later as Charge Nurse for Pediatric Oncology/Hematology in Dubai Hospital. She completed her PhD in Nursing management and been a Gold medalist.
She has has extensive background in Cardiovascular & Surgical Critical Care with expertise in adult & pediatric patients. Sonia has been an AHA instructor for lifesaving courses.
Her interests in education started by introducing 'Safe lifting & Patient handling' among her colleagues in SICU, went on in facilitating many training & research in several clinical areas in Dubai hospital. She is an author of several publications.

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