# Burns Assessment Protocol on Knowledge and Practice among Staff Nurses Working in Burns Unit of IGGGH & PGI at Puducherry

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Abstract: This study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of burns assessment protocol on knowledge and practice among staff nurses working in burns unit of IGGGH & PGI at Puducherry. The study was conducted by using pre-experimental design. The sample size is 32. Burns assessment protocol, self-administered knowledge questionnaire and observation check list prepared by the researcher was used. The study results shows that the mean post-test knowledge and practice score was significantly higher among staff nurses after intervention at  $P \le 0.001$  level. The practice also improved day by day. When correlating the knowledge and practice the r and P value of pre and post test was r=0.19 P=0.23 which shows positive poor correlation and r=0.53 P=0.001\*\*\* which shows positive moderate correlation. The association of the post-test level of knowledge, practice of the staff nurses with experience evidenced that there was statistically significant association at  $\chi 2=10.08$ ,  $P=0.02^*$ ,  $\chi 2=11.9$ ,  $P=0.01^{**}$ . That is experienced staff nurses gained more knowledge and practicing more than others. The study concluded that out of the 32 samples, only 9 (28.15%) attended continuing nursing education programme (CNE). So we should encourage all the staff nurses to update their knowledge by attending CNE programme.

Keywords: Burns, protocol, Knowledge, Practice, Staff-nurses

#### 1. Problem Statement

A study to evaluate the effectiveness of burns assessment protocol on knowledge and practice among staff-nurses working in burns unit of general hospital (IGGGH & PGI) at Puducherry.

#### 2. Objectives

- 1) To assess the need for burns assessment protocol among staff nurses
- 2) To assess the existing knowledge and practice on burns assessment protocol among staff Nurses
- 3) To evaluate the effectiveness of burns assessment protocol on knowledge and practice among staff nurses.
- 4) To correlate the knowledge and practice on burns assessment protocol among staff nurses
- 5) To associate effectiveness of burns assessment protocol on knowledge and practice with selected demographic variables.
- 6) To assess the usefulness of burns assessment protocol among staff nurses

#### 3. Operational Definitions

**Effectiveness:** It refers to a significant increase in the level of knowledge and practice of the staff nurses after implementation of burns assessment protocol.

**Protocol:** In this study it refers to structured scientific procedural steps related to burns assessment. It is prepared by the investigator after referring to many literatures. And then protocol was validated by experts from nursing and medical. They suggested certain modifications in protocol. After the modifications they agreed this protocol forassessing

knowledge and practice among staff nurses working in burns unit.

**Knowledge:** In this study, knowledge refers to correct responses obtained from staff nurses regarding the burns assessment protocol as measured by a structured questionnaire.

**Practice:** In this study, practice refers to the applying burns assessment protocol while giving care to burns patient or assessing burns patients.

**Staff Nurse**: A registered nurse who has obtained a Diploma or Bachelor degree in nursing and working in burns ward.

#### Hypotheses

 $H_1$ : The mean post-test knowledge and practice score will be significantly higher among staff nurses after intervention at 0.05 level.

 $H_2$ : There is significant improvement in practising burns assessment protocol among the staff nurses while providing care to burns patients.

 $H_3$ : There is significant relationship between knowledge and practice on burns assessment protocol with demographic variables.

#### Variables

- Independent variables: Burns assessment protocol
- **Dependent variable:** Knowledge and Practice of staff nurses regarding burns assessment protocol.

#### Delimitations

- The study is limited only to the staff nurses working in burns ward.
- The study is limited only to a period of 30 days.

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• The study is limited only to the IGGGH & PGI.

## **Conceptual framework** of this study is based on Modified Imogene King's Goal-Attainment Theory.

- **Research Approach:** Quantitative approach
- **Research design:** Pre-experimental design ( One group pretest and post test)
- Setting: Burns ward of Indira Gandhi Government General Hospital and Post Graduate Institute (IGGGH &PGI), Puducherry.
- **Population:** All staff nurses working in the burns unit of IGGGH & PGI at Puducherry.
- **Sample:** Staff nurses working in the burns ward of IGGGH & PGI at Puducherry who are fulfilling the inclusion criteria during the period of study.
- **Sample size:** The sample size of the study consists of 32 Staff nurses.
- Sampling technique: Purposive sampling technique

#### Sampling criteria

#### Inclusion Criteria

- Staff nurses working in the burns ward and have minimum 2 months' experience in the burns unit.
- Staff nurses who are willing to participate.

#### **Exclusion Criteria**

- Staff nurses who don't have any burnsward experience
- Staff Nurses who are not willing to participate

## The instrument used to collect data comprised of six sections namely

Section A: Demographic data

Section B: Self-administered need questionnaire

Section C:Self-administered knowledge questionnaire

Section D: Burns assessment protocol

Section E: Observation check list

Section F: Self-administered usefulness questionnaire



DATA ANALYSIS, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS (Descriptive and Inferential statistics)

Schematic presentation of research process

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#### 4. Analysis and Interpretation

- In pre-test, 84.4% of them had good knowledge and 100% of them had fair practice. After implementation of burns assessment protocol, 81.2% of them had very good knowledge and 56.3% of them had very good practice.
- The mean post-test knowledge and practice score was significantly higher among staff nurses after intervention at P≤0.001 level. The practice also improved day by day from 4.37%, 14.70%, 35.43%, 42.60%, 49.60%, and 60.73% to 68.03%.
- When correlating the knowledge and practice the pre-test r and P value was r=0.19 P=0.23. It shows positive, poor correlation between knowledge and practice. In post-test, r and P value was r=0.53 P=0.001\*\*\*. It shows positive, moderate correlation between knowledge and practice.
- The association of the post-test level of knowledge of the staff nurses with demographical variable experience evidenced that there was statistically significant association at  $\chi 2=10.08$ , P=0.02\*. The association of the post-test level of practice of the staff nurses with demographical experience evidenced that there was statistically significant association at  $\chi 2=11.9$ , P=0.01\*\*. That is experienced staff nurses gained more knowledge and practicing more than others.
- In total85.6% of staff nurses told that protocol was useful to assess burns patient. Out of the 32 samples 17 (53.1%) told 'I am not able to practice the protocol due to work load' and 18 (56.3%) told 'I am not able to practice the protocol due to shortage of time'.

## 5. Conclusion

The burns assessment protocol was effective in improving the knowledge and practice among staff nurses. Out of the 32 samples, only 9 (28.15%) attended continuing nursing education programme. So we should encourage all the staff nurses to update their knowledge by attending continuing nursing education programme or any kind of programmes which should be useful for them. So nurses must be thorough with burns assessment to manage the burns patient as well as to save the life of burns patient.

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