A STUDY ON THE KNOWLEDGE OF NURSES REGARDING PAIN MANAGEMENT

Kum Yoke Ching

ID: 1000615238

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School of Nursing, Faculty of Medical Sciences

UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

UCSI Education Sdn. Bhd. (185479-U)

UCSI Education Sdn. Bhd. (185479-U)

UCSI Education Sdn. Bhd. (185479-U)

No. 1. Jalan Menara Gading, Malaysia.

No. 1. Jalan Menara Lumpur, Malaysia.

56000 Kuala Lumpur, 603-9102 3606

Tel: 603-9101 8880 Fax: 603-9102 Www.ucsi.edu.mv

Website: www.ucsi.edu.mv

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ABSTRACT

Pain management is an important aspect of nursing care. Nurses play a vital role in implementing pain management effectively. This study was conducted among nurses in general adult ward with purpose to identify nurses' knowledge and attitude regarding pain management.

Self-administered questionnaires were used to measure knowledge and identify attitude about pain management. Ninety questionnaires were distributed; 86 nurses returned the questionnaires giving a response rate of 96%. The majority of the respondents were from the age group 20-29 with mean age of 28.2 years.

The knowledge test results, which averaged 67% showed that nurses scored reasonably knowledge compare to full score of 100%. The study showed that 68% of nurses who had worked in the ward for more than 6 years, obtained more than 8 correct answers out of 10 test statement. For statement that related to certain aspect of pharmacology intervention, 52% of respondents gave the wrong answer. The result indicated the nurses had reasonably knowledge in pharmacology.

This result of the study has helped in identifying nurses knowledge gaps in pain management. This result could provide baseline information to define level of knowledge and explore further as to whether these facts are necessary for inclusion in education program to enhance nurses competency.

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No. 1. Jalan Kuala Lumpur, 603-9102
56000 Kuala Lumpur, 603-9102
Tel: 603-9101 8880 Fax: 603-9102
Website: www.ucsi.edu.my