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Knowledge, Attitude and Practice in the Prevention of Nosocomial Infections among the Hospital Staff of a Nigerian Tertiary Hospital

Connaissances, Attitudes et Pratiques en Matière de Prévention des Infections Nosocomiales Parmi le Personnel Hospitalier d'un Hôpital Tertiaire Nigérian

¹E. F. Mbon, ^{2*}O. V. Chimezie, ³O. Ehioghae, ⁴O. A. Adesegun, ⁵B. E. Fikayo

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Nosocomial infections are a public health problem worldwide that contribute significantly to the morbidity and mortality of hospitalized patients. Thus, the knowledge and perception of the prevention of nosocomial infections is an integral part of safe, high-quality patient care and is essential for the well-being of the patients, staff, and visitors in all healthcare establishments.

METHODS: It was a cross-sectional study conducted among healthcare workers in Babcock University Teaching Hospital, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State Nigeria, involving 250 respondents who were selected through a computer-generated simple random sampling technique. Analysis was done using SPSS version 17, descriptive statistical methods were used to summarize the data. The test of significance was done using a t-test. A p-value of <0.05 was regarded as statistically significant.

RESULTS: The majority of the respondents, 235 (94.0%), were aware of nosocomial infections. The majority of the clinical staff, 140 (92.1%), had good knowledge, and 12(7.9%) had average knowledge compared to the non-clinical staff, 98(100.0%), with average knowledge of nosocomial infections. However, the statistical test ($t=2.106$; $p<0.05$) shows there was a significant difference in the knowledge of nosocomial infections between the clinical and non-clinical staff. The majority of the respondents, 231 (92.4%), had a good attitude towards the prevention of nosocomial infections, while a majority, 160 (80.0%), also had good practice in the prevention of nosocomial infections.

CONCLUSION: The study showed that the majority of the respondents had good knowledge, attitude, and practice in the prevention of nosocomial infections. However, there was a significant difference in the knowledge of prevention of nosocomial infections between clinical and non-clinical staff. Increasing educational knowledge by training health workers and organizing workshops/seminars on the prevention and transmission of nosocomial infections and implementation of infection control policies and practices among health workers will help to reduce the spread of nosocomial infections in hospital settings. **WAJM 2023; 40(4): 389–396.**

Keywords: Nosocomial infections, Public health, A Nigerian tertiary hospital, Prevention, Clinical, Non-clinical.

RÉSUMÉ

CONTEXTE: Les infections nosocomiales constituent un problème de santé publique dans le monde entier et contribuent de manière significative à la morbidité et à la mortalité des patients hospitalisés. Ainsi, la connaissance et la perception de la prévention des infections nosocomiales font partie intégrante de soins sûrs et de haute qualité et sont essentielles pour le bien-être des patients, du personnel et des visiteurs dans tous les établissements de santé.

MÉTHODES: Il s'agit d'une étude transversale menée auprès du personnel soignant du Babcock University Teaching Hospital, Ilishan-Remo, dans l'État d'Ogun au Nigeria, auprès de 250 personnes sélectionnées par le biais d'une technique d'échantillonnage aléatoire simple générée par ordinateur. L'analyse a été effectuée à l'aide de SPSS version 17, des méthodes statistiques descriptives ont été utilisées pour résumer les données. Le test de signification a été effectué à l'aide d'un test t. Une valeur $p < 0,05$ a été considérée comme statistiquement significative.

RÉSULTATS: La majorité des personnes interrogées 235 (94,0%) étaient au courant des infections nosocomiales. La majorité du personnel clinique 140 (92,1%) avait une bonne connaissance, et 12 (7,9%) une connaissance moyenne par rapport au personnel non-clinique 98 (100,0%) avec une connaissance moyenne de l'infection nosocomiale. Cependant, le test statistique ($t= 2.106$; $p<0.05$) montre qu'il y a une différence significative dans la connaissance des infections nosocomiales entre le personnel clinique et le personnel non-clinique. La majorité des personnes interrogées avaient une bonne attitude 231 (92,4%) à l'égard de la prévention des infections nosocomiales tandis qu'une majorité également 160 (80,0%) avaient une bonne pratique dans la prévention des infections nosocomiales.

CONCLUSION: L'étude a montré que la majorité des personnes interrogées avaient de bonnes connaissances, une bonne attitude et de bonnes pratiques en matière de prévention des infections nosocomiales. Cependant, il existe une différence significative entre le personnel clinique et le personnel non clinique en ce qui concerne la connaissance de la prévention des infections nosocomiales. L'amélioration des connaissances par la formation du personnel de santé et l'organisation d'ateliers/séminaires sur la prévention et la transmission des infections nosocomiales, ainsi que la mise en œuvre de politiques et de pratiques de contrôle des infections parmi le personnel de santé, contribueront à réduire la propagation des infections nosocomiales en milieu hospitalier. **WAJM 2023; 40(4): 389–396.**

Mots-clés: Infections nosocomiales, Santé publique, Hôpital tertiaire Nigérian, Prévention, Clinique, Non-clinique.

¹Nuffield Health Ipswich Hospital, Ipswich, England. ²Department of Histopathology, Babcock University Teaching Hospital, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State, Nigeria. ³Department of Surgery, Babcock University Teaching Hospital, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State, Nigeria. ⁴Acute Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Whipps Cross University Hospital, Barts Health NHS Trust, London, United Kingdom. ⁵Department of Community Medicine, Babcock University Teaching Hospital, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State, Nigeria.
*Correspondence: Dr. Okebalama Victor Chimezie, Department of Histopathology, Babcock University, Teaching Hospital, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State, Nigeria. Email: okebalsvictor@gmail.com Phone number: +2348062995816.