



A Registered Nurse's Understanding of Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment

A Thesis Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree Master of Science in Nursing

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Introduction

- According to Dantas et al. (2013), registered nurses are deficient in the scientific knowledge of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment.
- Research shows that there is a substantial incidence of pressure ulcer development in acute care facilities, to which there is limited research to support that there is a sufficient amount of nurse education in preventing and treating pressure ulcers, or that there is any training regarding new treatments available to nurses.



Objectives

Throughout this work, the primary investigator (PI) worked to answer three research questions.

1. Do registered nurses in a variety of settings have a good understanding of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment?
2. What do registered nurses already know about pressure ulcer prevention and treatment?
3. Do they feel that they have enough education to treat and care for pressure ulcers adequately?

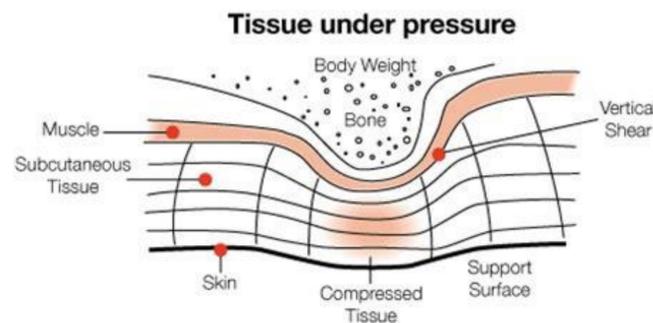
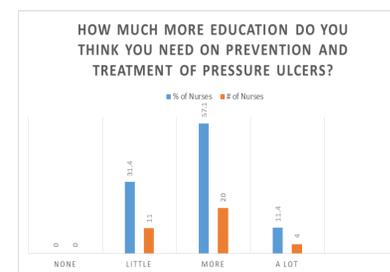
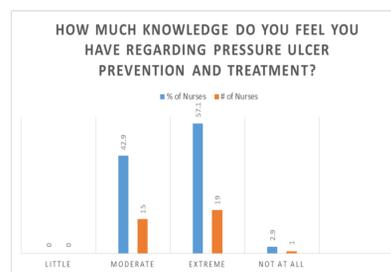
Materials and Method



- A quantitative study to examine the current knowledge of nurses, from a variety of settings, of prevention and treatment options of pressure ulcers.
- Registered nurses had access to a 25 question electronic survey carried through PsychData using a four-point Likert Scale.
- Four-point Likert scale of (a) never, (b) rarely, (c) sometimes, and (d) often. Questions number 11-20 had a Likert scale of (a) little, (b) moderate, (c) extreme, and (d) not at all. The last five questions presented used a Likert scale of (a) none, (b) little, (c) more, and (d) a lot.

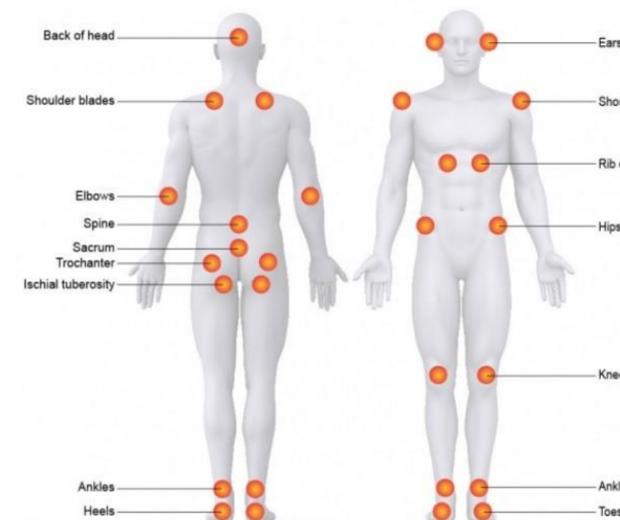
Results

- A total of 510 members of the North Carolina Nurses Association (NCNA) northeast region were invited
- A total of 37 nurses responded with interest.
- The majority of nurses surveyed (74%, n=26) reported that they felt they had a basic foundation of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment, but later data showed that they also think more training is needed.
- Nurses (54%) reported having extreme knowledge about pressure ulcer prevention and treatment options yet also felt the need for more education.



Ethical Considerations

- The University of Mount Olive (UMO) institutional review board (IRB) application was completed and approval was granted.
- Ethical considerations for this study included reassuring research participants there was minimum risks for their participation, that their rights of anonymous responses were secured and that they could stop completing the survey at any time.
- There was no healthcare organizational involvement in this study and no affiliation that resulted in funding or negotiations for shared results.



Conclusion



- 57% (n=20) of registered nurses felt that more education was needed for prevention and treatment of pressure ulcer with 60% (n=21) of registered nurses reporting they felt that additional training and education should be offered to nurses to aid in prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers.
- 68% of nurses reported they do not get training on pressure ulcer prevention or treatment options as well as there is a need for more education.
- There is an identified need to continue research in the area of acute care as well as a suggested need for annual training of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment as this was where the majority of the sample size reported to practice nursing.

References

References given on request by contacting jenkingmsnrn@yahoo.com