Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of Nurses on Pain Assessment and Management in Manila

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Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of Nurses on Pain Assessment and Management in Manila, Philippines
DISCLOSURE:

The authors did not receive financial support nor grant from any institution/organization.

The study was given ethical clearance by the Research Ethics Board of the University of the Philippines Manila.
The Problem

Nurses, health care providers responsible for patient assessment and care, are key players in providing effective assessment and treatment of pain. (Bicek, 2004).
The Problem

The Pain Society of the Philippines recognized the need for baseline data on the knowledge, attitude, and practices of nurses on pain assessment and management.
‘75% of Filipino cancer victims die with excruciating pain’

By: Jocelyn R. Uy - Reporter / @mj_uyINQ  Philippino Daily Inquirer / 0

MANILA, Philippines—Of the eight Filipinos who die every hour, five do so with excruciating pain because of inadequate pain treatment, which is a violation of their human right.

The Pain Society of the Philippines (PSP) has stressed the need for the government to amend a provision in the Dangerous Drugs Act to delineate the rules for medical opioids (powerful pain medication) for the seriously ill, especially those receiving hospice care.

“We have patients who are being pain killed every day. The pain is so excruciating that they can’t even breathe. They are not even able to speak. It’s so excruciating,” PSP president Frances Xavier told doctors and pain specialists during the recent forum organized by the Philippine College of Physicians.

Strict drug policies deprive Filipinos of pain relief

By Sheila Crisostomo (The Philippine Star) | Updated February 27, 2015 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines - Due to government's strict and unreasonable policies on regulated drugs, many Filipinos suffering from pain are deprived of relief, according to the Pain Society of the Philippines (PSP).

At a health forum organized on Tuesday by the Philippine College of Physicians, former PSP president Francis Xavier said doctors hardly prescribe opioids, main analgesics for severe pain, especially for acute or post-surgical pain, cancer and chronic non-cancer pain.

Basic human right to pain management often violated in PHL – group

Published February 25, 2015 5:07pm

GMA News Online

LIFESTYLE

Filtered By: Lifestyle
STUDY OBJECTIVES:

✓ To describe the knowledge and attitude of nurses on pain assessment and management.
✓ To determine the relationship of nurses' knowledge and attitude with their work experience and training.
✓ To describe self-reported practices of nurses on pain assessment and management.

INCLUSION CRITERIA:
Registered nurses who have worked for at least 6 months in tertiary hospitals
Conceptual Framework

Nurse

Years of Experience
Training
Clinical Area

Knowledge and Attitude

Practices

Patient Outcomes

Relief of Pain
Frequency of Medication Errors
Prevention of Complication
Quality of Life
Quality of Pain Management

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Sampling

**Step 1**
Simple Random Sampling of Tertiary Hospitals in Manila

**Step 2**
4 of 19 Hospitals agreed to participate
N= 510 Nurses

**Step 3**
Convenience sampling of RNs working in Medical-Surgical Units and ICUs.
n=225 (44%)

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TOOL:

1. “Nurses’ Knowledge and Attitudes Survey Regarding Pain”
   20 True or False, 12 Multiple choice, and 4 situational analysis questions

2. “Acute Pain Evidence-based Practice Questionnaire”
   50 Likert scale questions
## Profile of the respondents

(Response Rate = 58%)

Actual n = 235 (46%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>26.81 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>69.79 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No answer</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.40 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>28.13 years</td>
<td>6.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Range: 21-52 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years of Experience</td>
<td>3.38 years</td>
<td>3.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Range: 6 months-10 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Clinical Area of Assignment and Training of Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Clinical Area</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical-Surgical Ward</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>61.70 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensive Care Unit</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>38.30 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has had Related Training</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>20.43 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>79.57 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Analysis

1. Frequencies and Percentages
2. Measures of Central Tendencies
3. Independent Two-sample T-test
4. Pearson Correlation

Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of Nurses on Pain Assessment and Management in Manila, Philippines
## Level of Knowledge and Attitude of Nurses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic/ opioid addiction definition as a neurobiologic disease (T/F)</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>89.36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial analgesic administration post-op</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>88.94 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration of subsequent opioid doses is according to patient’s response (T/F)</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>88.09 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The most accurate judge of intensity of patient’s pain</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>81.70 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route of opioid administration for sudden severe pain in trauma or post-op clients</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>79.15 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Level of Knowledge and Attitude of Nurses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Route of opioid administration for persistent cancer pain</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>14.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood of developing respiratory depression in the absence of co-morbidity</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid administration during unknown source of pain can mask cause (T/F)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>12.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dose of morphine to be administered (case)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>11.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dose of morphine to be administered (case)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nurses Knowledge and Attitude Survey Regarding Pain (n=235)

Mean 16.97 (47.14%)

Median 17

Mode 15, 16

Standard Deviation 9.57

Range 10 (27.28%) – 30 (83.33%)
Acute Pain Evidence-Based Practice Questionnaire

- Nurses reported using 16 of 19 (84.21%) evidence-based practice (EBP) recommendations from the APEBPQ most of the time.

- 3 of 19 EBP recommendations from the APEBPQ were done least of the time.
# Reported interventions on Pain Assessment and Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment Modalities</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deep Breathing Exercises</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>79.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage Therapy</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>27.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Therapy</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>26.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Therapy</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>22.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat Therapy</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>22.46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Discussion

The mean knowledge and attitude score of nurses was low at 47.14%. Similar studies in Turkey (Yava et al) reported a rate of 39.65%.
A study by Javier and Calimag (2007) confirmed that there are restrictive laws on the manufacture, distribution, and prescription of opioids in the Philippines, which contributes to inadequate pain relief.
Data Analysis

1. Frequencies and Percentages
2. Measures of Central Tendencies
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Knowledge and Attitude & Years of Experience (Pearson correlation)

There is no correlation ($r = 0.09$) between the knowledge and attitude of nurses with their years of experience.
Knowledge and Attitude & Training
(Two-sample T-test)

There is no significant difference (p value=0.41) in Knowledge and Attitude (KA) in those who have had training and those without training.
Knowledge and Attitude & Clinical Area (Two-sample T-test)

There is no significant difference (p value = 0.53) in the KA of nurses between the Medical-Surgical Ward and the Intensive Care Unit.
Discussion

Evidence-based practices are generally part of nurses’ pain assessment and management.
Implications

There is a NEED to improve the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of nurses in pain assessment and management in the Philippines.
Recommendations

The following factors may be included in future studies:

- Cultural factors on pain perception
- Current curriculum on pain assessment and management for nursing degrees
- Larger sample size and number of institutions
Thank you very much!