

1457 Assessment of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of Health Professionals Regarding Breast Feeding in King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital

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Abstract

Background and Aims It has been recognized that exclusive breast-feeding rates in our community are suboptimal. To determine if one of the reasons is insufficient counselling, we aimed to assess knowledge, attitude and practice of health professionals in our community.

Methods This was a prospective study performed in King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital during the yearly conference. We designed a questionnaire divided into three sections of multiple choice questions, the first assessing knowledge of basic facts related to breast-feeding, with the second and third assessing attitude and practice. A total of 322 questionnaires were filled in by physicians and nurses from various departments, midwives and health educators. Means and differences between occupations were calculated, and statistical analysis was performed using SPSS version 17.0.

Results Mean knowledge score was $70\% \pm 10.1\%$. Differences between occupations was highly significant (p value < 0.001) with the highest scores in NICU physicians. Despite this variation, attitude and practice did not differ significantly between groups and positive answers were found in 92% and 61.4% respectively. Surprisingly, although 88% felt they were doing their best, only 42% gave options for working mothers, just below 50% tried to persuade nursing mothers regarding exclusive breast feeding, and a mere 36% counselled mothers on possible obstacles and how to overcome them.

Conclusions Despite generally high knowledge scores in our study population, as well as positive attitudes, actual practices need to be improved. Further studies to assess barriers to optimal counselling practices need to be performed.

1564 Effect of an Intervention on Peripheral Intravenous Catheter Infiltration Rates in the Pediatric Department of King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital

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Abstract

Background and Aims Peripheral intravenous catheterization is the most common invasive procedure among paediatric inpatients. Infiltration and extravasation are common complications, causing pain, discomfort, infection, nerve damage, and tissue necrosis. In an effort to reduce our rates, we designed a prospective intervention study.

Methods This was a prospective study performed in the Pediatric department of King Fahad Armed Forces Hospital. We recorded the infiltrations from Jan to June 2010, followed by the intervention during July and August 2010, in the form of in-services and laminated posters emphasizing site of catheterization, use of transparent tape and hourly cannula site inspection. The rates of infiltrations were then recorded from September 2010 - October 2011. Patients with any form of vasculitis, thrombotic or bleeding tendency were excluded. Descriptive data was recorded and rates were compared between pre- and post-intervention. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS version 17.0.

Results A total of 384 infiltrations were recorded. The average monthly rate pre-intervention was 26.8 and post-intervention was 20.7 with a p-value of 0.04 (statistically significant). Although a reduction was seen post-intervention, there was a rebound in infiltrations starting Nov 2010 to Feb 2011, which was recognized at the time, attributed to a high turnover of nurses and higher rates of admissions. We repeated a series of in-services with a subsequent reduction in infiltration rate.

Conclusions The overall pattern shows a statistically significant reduction in infiltration rate after the intervention. However, continuous surveillance and reinforcement of interventions is mandatory to sustain improved rates.