

A Study to Assess the Knowledge, Perception and Willingness towards Organ Donation among the Staff Nurses at Selected Tertiary Care Hospitals, Chennai

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Abstract:- Organ donation saves the life of millions of patients throughout the world. However, in India, organ failure patients have not much benefited from it even though there is the availability of organs for transplantation. In the present study, an attempt has been made to understand the knowledge, perception and willingness towards organ donation among the nurses in certain tertiary care hospitals in Chennai. It was a cross-sectional questionnaire-based study done between January 2019 and December 2019 among 120 nurses from 2 selected hospitals in Chennai. Simple random method was used to select the samples. From the present study, it is concluded that the lack of knowledge on organ donation and transplantation among nurses creates a need to add much content about organ donation in the nursing curriculum. Health care professionals play a major role in generating more organ donation.

Keywords:- Nurses, Knowledge, Perception, Organ donation, Organ transplantation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Organ donation saves the life of millions of patients throughout the world. However, in India, organ failure patients have not much benefited from it even though there is the availability of organs for transplantation [1]. The demand for organs is huge in India and does not match with the availability of organs. Technically, the availability of organs is there, however it never reaches the needy patients [2].

One of the main reasons for the non-availability of the organ is the lack of knowledge and awareness of organ donation among the various sectors [3]. The nurses play an important part in organ donation [4]. They should have knowledge to obtain the organ from the donor. They are involved in the coordination of obtaining the organ from the dead or alive [5, 6]. Continuing Nursing education on organ donation should be conducted periodically, in order to generate more organ donation and helps to prevent shortage of organs for transplantation.

Hence, it becomes imperative to identify the areas in which nurses should know about organ donation. This will give them the willingness to organ donation. But not many studies have been done to explore the knowledge and perception on organ donation among the nurses in India. Hence, in the present study, an attempt has been made to understand the knowledge, perception and willingness towards organ donation among nurses in certain tertiary care hospitals in Chennai.

➤ Statement of the Problem

A Study to assess the knowledge, perception and willingness towards organ donation among the staff nurses at selected tertiary care hospitals in Chennai.

➤ Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge about organ donation among the staff nurses working in selected tertiary care hospitals in Chennai.
2. To assess the perception and willingness towards organ donation among the staff nurses.
3. To associate knowledge, perception and willingness towards organ donation among the staff nurses with the selected demographic variables.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

It was a cross-sectional questionnaire-based study done between January 2019 and December 2019 among 120 nurses from 2 selected hospitals in Chennai. Simple random method was used to select the samples. The nurses were randomly selected from the two hospitals. The participation was voluntary and details of the participants were kept anonymous. The informed consent was taken from all the participants before the data collection.

The questionnaire was developed regarding knowledge, perception and willingness towards organ donation. The content validation was done and the reliability of the tool was checked by using Cronbach's Alpha test. This validated self-administered questionnaire was provided to the staff nurses working in selected hospitals. It consisted of four sections from questions on demographics of study participants like

age, gender, religion, educational qualification, present working ward and year of professional experience. Section ‘A’ – Proforma to collect the demographic variables, Section ‘B’ – General Information questionnaire on organ donation, Section ‘C’ - Structure questionnaire to assess the knowledge about organ donation, Section ‘D’ - Structure questionnaire to assess the perception and willingness towards organ donation.

Statistical analyses were done by SPSS vs 21. The descriptive and inferential statistics were done for all the data.

III. RESULTS

A total of 120 nurses were involved in the present study.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of nurses

S. No	Demographic variables		Total Response (N = 120)	
			n	%
1.	Age (in years)	21 – 30	87	72.50
		31 – 40	21	17.50
		41 – 50	12	10
2.	Gender	Male	17	14.17
		Female	103	85.83
3.	Religion	Hindu	72	60
		Islam	5	4.17
		Christian	43	35.83
4.	Marital Status	Single	38	31.67
		Married	82	68.33
		Divorced	0	0.00
		Widowed	0	0.00
5.	Educational Qualification	DGNM	72	60.00
		B.Sc	41	34.17
		M.Sc	7	5.83
6.	Total years of professional experience	1-5	57	47.50
		6-10	48	40.00
		11-15	12	10.00
		16-20	3	2.50
7.	Present working ward	ICU	47	39.17
		Emergency/ Trauma	12	10.00
		Medical/ Surgical	36	30.00
		Neuro ward	10	8.33
		Others	15	12.50

The above table 1 shows the frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of nurses. Majority of the study participants, 87 (72.50%) were in the age group 21-30 years, 103 (85.83%) were females, 72 (60.00%) belonged to Hindu religion, 82 (68.33%) were married, 72 (60.00%)

were qualified were qualified with Diploma in general nursing and midwifery (DGNM), 57 (47.50%) were had 1-5 years of professional experience and 47 (39.17%) were presently working in ICU.

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of general information, perception and willingness about organ donation

S. No	General Information on organ donation	Total response (N = 120)			
		Yes		No	
		n	%	n	%
1.	Heard about organ donation	91	75.83	29	24.17
2.	Aware of donor card	70	58.33	50	41.67
3.	Register organ donor	23	19.17	97	80.83
4.	Voluntary Blood Donor	34	28.33	86	71.67
5.	Relatives donate their organs	30	25.00	90	75.00
6.	Willing to donate Organs	68	56.67	52	43.33
7.	Willing to register Organ/ Tissue donor	62	51.67	58	48.33
8.	Risk of Organ Trafficking in India	74	61.67	46	38.33
9.	Adequacy of organ donation content in nursing curriculum	34	28.33	86	71.67
10.	Awareness on Organ Donation should be made in School/College Education	112	93.33	8	6.67

Table 2 shows the frequency and percentage distribution of general information on organ donation. Majority of the study participants , 91 (75.83%) had awareness about organ donation, 70 (58.33%) are aware about donor card, 97 (80.83%) are not registered organ donor, 86 (71.67%) are not voluntary blood donors, 90 (75.00%) said that their relatives will donate organs, 68 (56.67%) are

willing to donate organs, 62 (51.67%) are willing to register as a organ/tissue donor, 74 (61.67%) said that there is a risk of organ trafficking in India, 86 (71.67%) reported that there should be adequacy of organ donation content in nursing curriculum and 112 (93.33%) reported that awareness on organ donation should be made in school/college education.

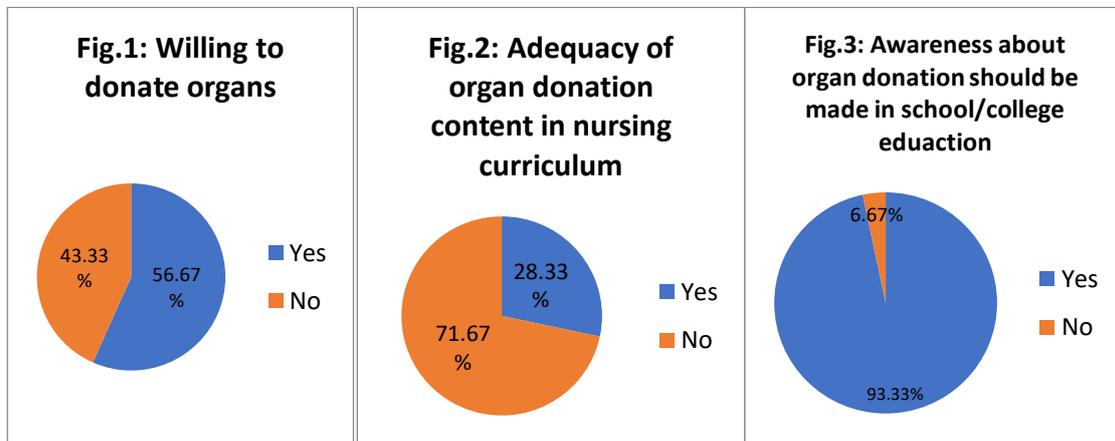


Table 3: Frequency and Percentage distribution of mode of obtaining information about organ donation among nurses

S. No	Method of education	Total response (N= 120)	
		n	%
1.	Advertisement in Television	30	25.00
2.	Neighbours	14	11.67
3.	News Paper / Magazines Advertisement	39	32.50
4	Social Media	8	6.67
5	Radio and Workshop	2	1.66
6	Video assisted learning module	20	16.67
7	In-service Education	7	5.83

Table 3 shows the mode of obtaining information about organ donation among nurses. Majority of nurses 39 (32.50%) have expressed that they acquire information about organ donation through newspaper/magazine advertisement followed by television 30 (25.00%).

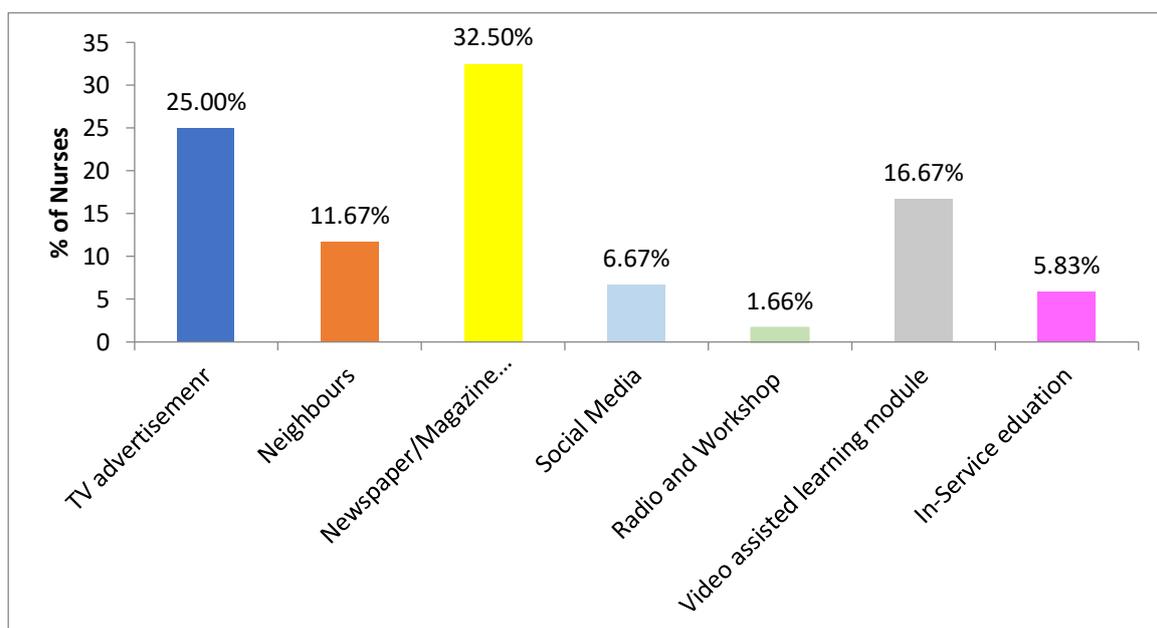


Figure 4: Percentage distribution of mode of obtaining information about organ donation among nurses

Table 4: Frequency and Percentage distribution of knowledge about types of organ donation, Indian Transplantation law and organ donor criteria among nurses

S. No	Questions	Total response (N =120)					
		Yes		No		Partially Known	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	Knowledge about types of organ donation	7	5.83	88	73.34	25	20.83
2	Knowledge about Indian Transplantation Law	9	7.50	103	85.83	8	6.67
3	Knowledge about donor criteria	28	23.33	75	62.50	17	14.17

Table 4 shows the knowledge about organ donation criteria among nurses. Majority of them, 88 (73.34%) do not know about the types of organ donation, 103 (85.83%) do not know about the Indian Transplantation law and 75 (62.50%) of them do not know about the organ donor criteria among the nurses.

IV. DISCUSSION

Organ transplantation is a boon for the end stage organ failure patients as it provides them the long-term survival and better quality of life. In spite of this, in India there is shortage of organ donors that is really a hurdle in transplantation.⁵ One of the reasons may be knowledge and attitude of health care professionals which are key elements in facilitating cadaveric organ donation process [7] Further, lack of knowledge and failure to identify possible donors are key elements in shortage of transplant organs [8].

The study revealed that the nurses do not have interest in the organ donation or organ transplantation and thus they may not motivate the organ donors for transplantation. Further, whatever knowledge they have acquired is only through the media like newspaper and television.

The present study clearly suggests that the nurses' lack of knowledge in the organ donation and organ transplantation. It has been suggested that through education programs to health care workers can solve this issue [9]. It has been suggested that the curriculum of nursing should have information about various aspects of organ donation [10].

There was a significant association found between the demographic variables such as age, educational qualification and total years of professional experience with the knowledge, perception and willingness towards organ donation among the staff nurses.

V. CONCLUSION

The Investigator concluded that it is the responsibility of health care professionals to create awareness on organ donation among the staff nurses and also to the common public. A nurse led planned teaching program on organ donation helps to develop the competent nursing care to the potential organ donors in the health care setup and motivate the staff nurses to generate more organ donation.

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