

Original research article**A STUDY ON PATIENT SAFETY AWARENESS AMONG FINAL YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS AND CRMI'S IN GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE IN CHENNAI**

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Abstract

Introduction: Awareness about patient safety practices is important to prevent transmission of infection. By assessing the awareness and practices about infection control one can plan health education to increase their awareness.

Methods and Material: The research was conducted after getting the Institutional Ethics Committee approval. The sample size was about 159 people includes final year medical student and CRMI under Government Omandurar Medical College. Sample was collected via Google forms. **Results:** Out of total study population 12% are unaware of patient safety policy, 30% cross contamination in health care are due human contact, 18% are through contaminated items. 30% of study population don't wash their coat and OT dress regularly.

Conclusions: Antenatal care utilization was low which shows the need for the scaling up of ANC services even during Covid-19 period.

Key words: Patient safety awareness, final year MBBS, interns

Introduction

Patient safety practices are of vital importance in preventing hospital care associated infections. Hospital acquired infections are of major concerns in both patients and health care workers.¹

Infections lead to increased duration of stay of a patient in hospital, leads to functional disability, emotional stress of patient, increases economic burden. Patient safety practices are one of the leading preventable causes of death.

Patient safety practices are efficient to reduce transmission of infections in both health care workers and people.

Simple factors like following proper handwashing techniques, using personal protective equipment like mask, gloves, following safe injection practices etc can be effective in reducing incidence of infections.²

Objective: By assessing the awareness and practices about safety practices, one can plan health education to increase their awareness among final year medical student and CRMI

Material and Methods

Study setting: It was a Cross sectional study. Data's are collected by Google forms using a semi structured, standardised questionnaire by interviewer method. The study subjects were final year Medical students and CRMIs under Omandurar Government Medical College, Chennai.

Sample size: Total participants were 159 students (final year medical & CRMI). First year, Second year & third year medical students were excluded from the study.

Sampling method and Data collection: Based on a semi-structured questionnaire are collected via Google forms. The study was conducted among final year Medical students and CRMIs were identified and explained the purpose of the study to the participant's informed consent was obtained. The questions was filled by a semi-structured questionnaire are collected via Google forms. All the data was combined into excel then fed to SPSS software for further analysis. Descriptive analysis will be done. Categorical variables will be expressed in frequency and percentages. The data will be statistically analysed using SPSS software and the results will be submitted. The data collected was qualitative data with nominal variable, so non parametric test was applied to test the significance.

Results

The data collected was qualitative data with nominal variable, so non parametric test was applied to test the significance. Descriptive analysis of the study is done and the results are given below.

'Do you wash your white coat and OT dress regularly?' For the above question out of 159 people 48 have answered no and 111 have answered "yes" which is significant. It was found that about all most half the study population don't wash their white coat and OT dress regularly.

Table 1: Are you aware of patient safety policy (N=159)

Variable	n	%
No	12	7.5
Yes	147	92.5
Total	159	100

Out of total study population, 12% are unaware of patient safety policy.

Table 2: What are the ways of cross contamination in health care setting

Variable	n	%
All of the above	56	35.2
Coughing and sneezing	28	17.6
Dirty bedding	7	4.4
Human contact	30	18.9
Prolonged use of catheters, tubes or intravenous lines	9	5.7
Through contaminated objects	18	11.3
Unsterilized medical equipment	11	6.9
Total	159	100

Common ways for cross contamination were human contact, coughing & sneezing, through contaminated objects followed by unsterile medical equipments.

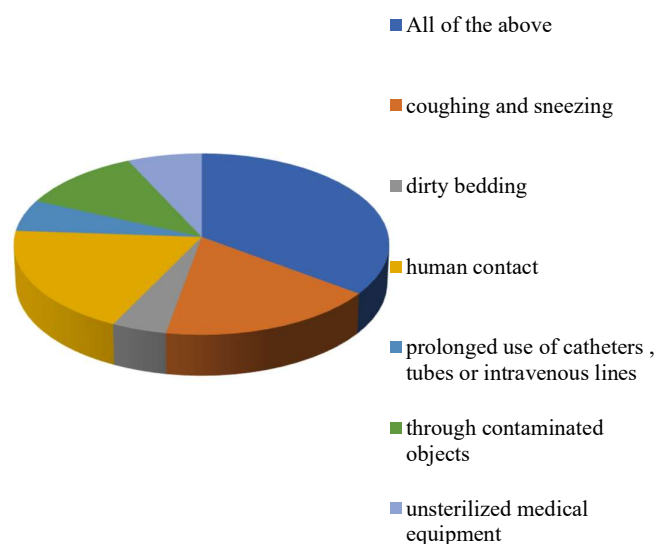
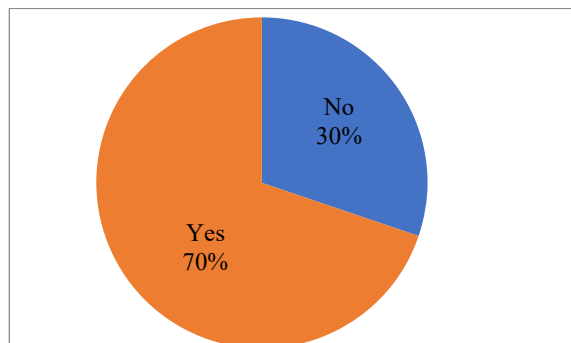


Figure 1: Ways of cross contamination

Table 3: Most effective method of patient safety

Variable	n	%
All of the above	70	44.0
Isolation of infected patients	23	14.5
Proper hand hygiene	40	25.2
Wearing mask / gloves	26	16.4
Total	159	100

Proper hand hygiene, wearing mask/gloves, isolation of infected patients found to be the most effective method of patient safety.

Figure 2: Do you wash your white coat and OT dress regularly

Nearly 70% of them washing white coat/OT dress regularly whereas 30% not washing it.

Table 4: How often do you clean your stethoscope with anti-septics

Variable	n	%
Very often	12	7.5
Almost never	64	40.3
Never	27	17.0
Often	56	35.2
Total	159	100

Among 159 participants, 27 (17%) and 64 (40.3%) never clean and almost never clean the stethoscope with anti-septics respectively.

Conclusions

By this study we conclude that most of Final year Medical students and CRMIs don't wash their white coat and OT dress regularly. So it is important to educate the Aseptic precaution importance and make them practice the same. Another significant result was that study population don't know the proper method to dispose the blood bag though beginning a plastic it should be disposed in the yellow as there is more chance of infection when compared with the urine bag, should be educated on this note too.

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