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Nurses' knowledge, attitude and practice of emergency care related to road traffic accident victims in Rwanda



KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE OF EMERGENCY CARE ON ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT (RTA) VICTIMS AT THREE SELECTED RWANDA HOSPITALS

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Introduction

- Road traffic Accidents (RTA) are serious problems worldwide and are worse in low and middle income countries.



Introduction cont'd

RTA victims need immediate and adequate care and the nurses' responsibilities include the provision of emergency care to such vulnerable patients.



Background

- Worldwide, nurses are very significant health care personnel who form part of an emergency care team including RTA emergency management team.



- In Rwanda, most trauma patients are being managed by nurses, however the published literature concerning knowledge, attitude and practice in relation to emergency nursing care of RTA victims is still limited.

Methods

- A cross sectional design was used to survey the full cohort of nurses working in Accident and Emergency (A&E) units in three selected Rwandan hospitals (N = 51).

Results

- This study revealed that the knowledge and practice of nurses is either high or very high and the majority of them (73.657%) had a positive attitude toward emergency management of RTA victims.

Results cont'd

- Being specifically trained in emergency care was associated with a significant increase in the likelihood of being at practice level 1 which is
 - **(1) very high (OR=5.35, 95%, CI=5.20-5.50),**
 - (2) high (OR=1.60, 95%, CI=1.17-2.19),
 - (3) moderate (OR=5.35,95%,CI=4.15-6.88) and
 - (4) low (OR=1.33,95%,CI=1.33-133) and

Results: cont'd

- Being trained decreased evidently more than 99.9% the likelihood of being at a low level of practice.

Conclusion

- The study concluded that generally the knowledge and practice of nurses working at A&E services in the management of RTA victims is either high or very high.
- They also have a positive attitude toward RTA victims.

Recommendations

- Training has been demonstrated to enhance good practice.



- Therefore to employ nurses in A&E services, training in emergency care of RTA victims should be considered, followed by regular refresher training.

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