# NURSES AWARENESS TO RECOGNIZE EARLY RECOGNITION ACUTE KIDNEY INJURY

# Dr.Ravindra H.N.<sup>1</sup> Kinjal A. Patel <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Professor.

Sumandeep Nursing College,

Sumandeep Vidyapeeth deemed to be University,

Piparia, Waghodia, Vadodara - 391760, Gujarat, India.

<sup>2</sup>Post graduate nursing Student,

Medical Surgical Nursing (cardio vascular and thoracic nursing)

Sumandeep Nursing College,

Sumandeep Vidyapeeth deemed to be University,

Piparia, Waghodia, Vadodara - 391760, Gujarat, India.

# **CORRESPONDING AUTHOR**

Dr.Ravindra H.N.<sup>1</sup>

Professor,

Sumandeep Nursing College,

Sumandeep Vidyapeeth deemed to be University,

Piparia, Waghodia, Vadodara - 391760, Gujarat, India.

Email. ravindrahn23@hotmail.com

## **ABSTRACT**

**Objective:** - To assess the awareness of nurses on early recognition of acute kidney injury in intensive care, emergency and hospitalization units. **Method:** - A prospective multi-center study was conducted with 216 nurses, using a questionnaire with 10 questions related to acute kidney injuryprevention, diagnosis, and treatment. **Results:**- 57.2% of nurses were unable to identify Acute kidney injuryclinical manifestations, 54.6% did not have awareness of Acute kidney injury incidence in patients admitted to the ICU, 87.0% of the nurses did not know how to answer as regards the Acute kidney injury mortality rate in patients admitted to the ICU, 77.6% answered correctly that Acute kidney injury does not characterize the have to for hem dialysis, and 92.5% said they had no knowledge of the Acute Kidney Injury Network classification. **Conclusion:** - Nurses do not have enough awareness to identify early Acute

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Kidney Injury, demonstrating the importance of qualification programs in this field of knowledge.

**KEYWORDS:** -Nurses, awareness, acute kidney disease,

# **INTRODUCTION**

Acute kidney injury is a serious demonstration caused by numerous and wide-ranging etiologies related to a high mortality rate and the extended length of hospital stay <sup>1</sup>. It may be present in the community and in hospital settings. Sepsis is the most common cause of acute kidney injury in serious patients and is connected with higher severity, growing risk of death and hospital admissions, compared to non-septic patients<sup>2</sup>. In intensive care units, its incidence may reach 20%, and 49% to 70% of patients need dialytic treatment <sup>3-4</sup>. It is very difficult to establish acute kidney injury incidence due to the lack of a standard definition <sup>3</sup>. Experts from an international network projected a new Acute kidney injury definition and classification, the Acute Kidney Injury Network Acute kidney injury, with the aim of standardize this concept for clinical study purposes and, particularly, facilitating the diagnosis of this syndrome, in an attempt to reduce high morbidity and mortality still currently found <sup>5-6</sup>. In view of the high mortality related with the presence of Acute kidney injury, the prospect of detecting risk factors and the completion of preventive measures make the work of health professional more critical for early classification<sup>7</sup>.

## **METERIAL AND METHODS**

A cross-sectional, descriptive, multi-center, quantitative, and prospective study was conducted in six public and private hospitals. A pilot questionnaire was designed with 10 multiple choice questions, based on the literature on the topic and according to experience in ICU care practice

## **RESULTS**

A total of 216 nurses participated in the study, with the aim of identifying their knowledge on early acute kidney injury identification. The mean age from 22 to 53 years, and most were women (84.8%). with a higher percentage (70.1%) of professionals showing more than 5 years since graduation. 131 (60.9%) worked in an intensive care Unit. 161 (74.5%) were specialists degree. Regarding experience in unit with nephrological patients, 95 nurses (44%) 41 nurses (43%) worked for approximately 3 to 5 years.

# Rate of right answers by respondent nurses.

Question	%
1	81.70
2	64.00
3	42.80
4	45.40
5	13.00
6	32.90
7	33.20
8	60.40
9	77.60
10	7.60

#### DISCUSSION

The Some studies measured the awareness of nurses on topics such as the systematization of nursing care<sup>8</sup>. Data drawn from other studies suggest information deficits in other areas, with a systematic review regarding awareness on diabetes <sup>8-9</sup>. A study that included nurses from special countries showed majordeficiency in several aspects of care to diabetic patients.<sup>9</sup> When nurses start operational in hospital unit, they are faced with the need for taking over several organizational and care tasks and function with an widepaper workload and, often, with more than a few employment bonds, which can keep them away from continuous learning that is so crucial for caring for high-risk patients <sup>10</sup>.

#### CONCLUSION

The results showed that most nurses do not hold enough awareness on early recognition of acute kidney injury therefore, there is a need for increasing and applying qualification programs with the aim of improving competences and skill for prevent and identifying early acute kidney injury.

# ETHICAL CLEARANCE

This study was conducted after getting approval from Institutional Ethics committee and obtaining written consent from all subjects.

# **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The author declares that they have no conflicts of interest disclosed.

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