

## **A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF STAFF NURSES REGARDING REVISED NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAMME IN SELECTED GOVT. HOSPITAL, DISTRICT KANGRA, HIMACHAL PRADESH.**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Background: Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major public health problem in India. In 2008, out of the estimated global annual incidence of 9.4 million TB cases, 1.98 million were estimated to have occurred in India, of which 0.87 million were infectious cases, thus catering to a one fifth of the global burden of TB. The study aimed to assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding RNTCP Programme in selected Govt. hospital, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. The quantitative research approach was adopted for the study. The main study was conducted on 50 staff nurses of Zonal Hospital Dharamshala, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. Purposive sampling technique was used to collect data. Structured questionnaire was used which had two parts, socio-demographic data of the respondent, knowledge questionnaire related to basic concept of Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme. Result indicates that there is no much difference in the knowledge with regard to certain demographic variables. There is no association between the knowledge score with demographic variables (qualification, experience, exposure and area of work). The maximum mean % of knowledge score is in the area of Prevention of tuberculosis 81.00%, 70.00% is in the area of incidence of tuberculosis, and 66.00% is in the area of prevalence of tuberculosis and minimum mean % is in the area of detection of TB cases 46.6%, 51.00% is in the area of type of tuberculosis and 52.00% is in the area of sign and symptoms of tuberculosis. Hence, it can be concluded that staff nurses had maximum knowledge regarding prevention of tuberculosis and minimum knowledge regarding detection of TB cases.*

**Keywords:** RNTCP, Staff nurse, Knowledge.

## INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis or TB is a common and deadly Infectious disease caused by mycobacterium tuberculosis. It usually attacks the lungs but can also affect other parts of the body. It spread through the air, when people having the disease cough, sneezed. Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major public health problem in India. India has more new TB cases annually than any other country.

The Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) uses the DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course chemotherapy) strategy, which has been based on results of tuberculosis research done in India.

The Goal of RNTCP is to decrease mortality and morbidity due to TB and to reduce the transmission of infection until TB ceases to be a major public health problem. To control this expanding problem the, National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP) was reviewed by an expert committee appointed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1992.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

A Study to assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme in selected Govt. hospital, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding RNTCP programme.
2. To assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding DOTS therapy under RNTCP programme.
3. To find out association between knowledge score of staff nurses with demographic variables like qualification, experience, exposure and area of work.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

A descriptive research design was used. This study was conducted in Zonal hospital Dharamshala, district Kangra, Himachal Pradesh with the sample of 50 selected staff nurses by purposive sampling technique. The structured questionnaire was used to collect the data. Written confirmation was obtained by the investigator from the Senior Medical Officer Zonal hospital Dharmshala, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. After discussing the purpose and objectives of the study the analysis and interpretation of the data was done by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table-1 Showing the frequency and percentage distribution of subjects according to socio-demographic variables.

According to professional qualification, all the selected staff nurses i.e 100% were GNM. According to professional experience, all the staff nurses 100% were having experience only in clinical area. According to exposure on RNTCP, majority of staff nurses 82% had exposure through mass media on RNTCP. According to current working area, majority of selected staff nurses 32% were working in Medical ward. According to any experience with tuberculosis patient, majority of staff nurses 32% had experience with tuberculosis patient.

**Table: 1 Percentage Distribution of Sample Characteristics**

**(N=50)**

| <b>Demographic Variables</b>          |                               | <b>Frequency<br/>(f)</b> | <b>Percentage(%)</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Professional qualification</b>     | GNM                           | 50                       | <b>100</b>           |
|                                       | Basic BSc. Nursing            | 0                        | 0                    |
|                                       | Post Basic BSc.<br>(Nsg)      | 0                        | 0                    |
| <b>Professional experience</b>        | Clinical                      | 50                       | 100                  |
|                                       | Teaching                      | 0                        | 0                    |
|                                       | Both clinical and<br>teaching | 0                        | 0                    |
| <b>Exposure on RNTCP</b>              | Seminar                       | 5                        | 10                   |
|                                       | Conference                    | 1                        | 2                    |
|                                       | Workshop                      | 3                        | 6                    |
|                                       | Mass media                    | 41                       | 82                   |
| <b>Current working Area</b>           | Medical                       | 16                       | 32                   |
|                                       | Surgical                      | 10                       | 20                   |
|                                       | Paediatrics                   | 12                       | 24                   |
| <b>Any experience with Tb patient</b> | Yes                           | 16                       | 32                   |
|                                       | No                            | 34                       | 68                   |

**Table :2 Frequency, percentage distribution and rank order of Staff nurses according to level of Knowledge regarding RNTCP.**

**(N=50)**

| <b>CRITERIA MEASURE OF KNOWLEDGE SCORE</b> |               |                      |                      |                   |
|--|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Knowledge</b>                           | <b>Score</b>  | <b>Frequency (f)</b> | <b>Percentage(%)</b> | <b>Rank Order</b> |
| <b>High</b>                                | 38-50 (>75%)  | 2                    | 4                    | 3                 |
| <b>Average</b>                             | 25-37(50-74%) | 39                   | 78                   | 1                 |
| <b>Low</b>                                 | 0-24 (<50%)   | 9                    | 18                   | 2                 |

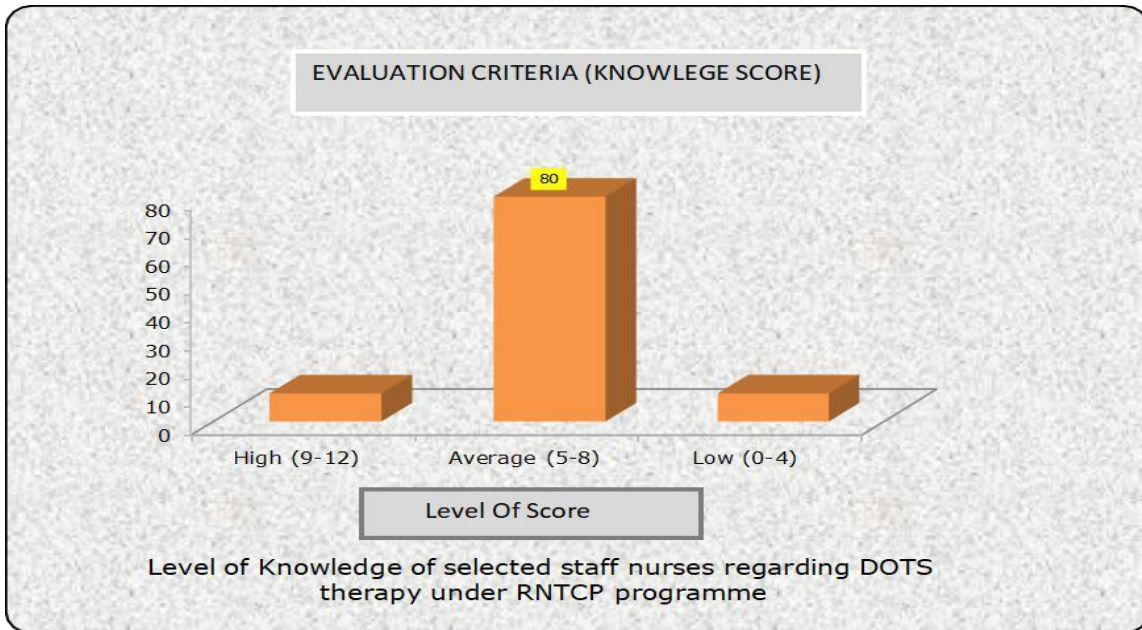
Table 2 depicts the frequency and percentage distribution of selected staff nurses of Zonal Hospital Dharmshala according to their knowledge on RNTCP programme. It shows that majority of selected staff nurses 78% (Rank 1) had average knowledge followed by 18% (rank 2) had low knowledge regarding RNTCP programme. Hence, it can be concluded that majority of selected staff nurses had average knowledge regarding RNTCP programme.

**Table :3 Frequency, percentage distribution of Staff nurses according to level of knowledge regarding DOTS Therapy.**

**N=50**

| <b>CRITERIA MEASURE OF KNOWLEDGE SCORE</b> |              |                      |                       |
|--|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Knowledge</b>                           | <b>Score</b> | <b>Frequency (f)</b> | <b>Percentage (%)</b> |
| <b>High</b>                                | 9-12 (>75%)  | 5                    | 10                    |
| <b>Average</b>                             | 5-8 (50-74%) | 40                   | 80                    |
| <b>Low</b>                                 | 0-4 (<50%)   | 5                    | 10                    |

Table 3 depicts that the frequency and percentage distribution of selected staff nurses regarding DOTS therapy under RNTCP programme. It shows that majority of selected staff nurses 80% had average knowledge regarding DOTS therapy followed by 10% had low knowledge regarding DOTS therapy. Hence, it can be concluded that majority of selected staff nurses had average knowledge regarding DOTS therapy.



**Figure 3** Frequency, percentage distribution of selected staff nurses according to level of knowledge regarding DOTS therapy

**Table:4** Frequency percentage distribution and association of knowledge score of staff nurses with selected demographic variables (Professional Qualification, Professional Experience, Exposure on RNTCP, Current Working Area, Any Experience with tuberculosis patient).

N=50

| Demographic Data                  |                         | Level Score  |                   |             | Association with Knowledge Score |    |         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|----|---------|
|                                   |                         | Good<br>>75% | Average<br>50-74% | Low<br><50% | Chi Test                         | df | P Value |
| <b>Professional Qualification</b> | GNM                     | 2            | 39                | 9           | NA<br>(Not applicable)           |    |         |
|                                   | Basic BSc. Nursing      | 0            | 0                 | 0           |                                  |    |         |
|                                   | Post Basic BSc. Nursing | 0            | 0                 | 0           |                                  |    |         |
| <b>Professional</b>               | Clinical                | 2            | 39                | 9           | NA                               |    |         |

|   |                            |   |    |   |                     |   |       |
|---|----------------------------|---|----|---|---------------------|---|-------|
| <b>Experience</b>                           | Teaching                   | 0 | 0  | 0 | (Not applicable)    |   |       |
|   | Both clinical and teaching | 0 | 0  | 0 |                     |   |       |
| <b>Exposure on RNTCP</b>                    | Seminar                    | 0 | 5  | 0 | 9.366 <sup>NS</sup> | 6 | 0.154 |
|   | Conference                 | 0 | 1  | 0 |                     |   |       |
|   | Workshop                   | 1 | 2  | 0 |                     |   |       |
|   | Mass Media                 | 1 | 31 | 9 |                     |   |       |
| <b>Working Area</b>                         | Medical                    | 0 | 12 | 4 | 9.359 <sup>NS</sup> | 6 | 0.154 |
|   | Surgical                   | 0 | 8  | 2 |                     |   |       |
|   | Pediatrics                 | 0 | 9  | 3 |                     |   |       |
|   | TB unit                    | 2 | 10 | 0 |                     |   |       |
| <b>Experience With Tuberculosis Patient</b> | Yes                        | 0 | 15 | 1 | 3.497 <sup>NS</sup> | 2 | 0.174 |
|   | No                         | 2 | 24 | 8 |                     |   |       |

The data presented in the table 4 depicted the chi square value for knowledge score with selected demographical variable of staff nurses. Chi test value calculated for knowledge and demographical variable i.e professional qualification, professional experience, exposure on RNTCP, current working area and any experience with tuberculosis patients of staff nurses not applicable, 9.366, 9.359, 3.497 respectively was not significant at  $p < 0.05$ . Hence, it was concluded that there is no association between knowledge and demographical variable i.e professional qualification, professional experience, exposure on RNTCP, current working area and any experience with tuberculosis patient.

## CONCLUSION

The main aim of the study is to assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding RNTCP Programme in selected Govt. hospital, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. It is concluded that the selected staff nurses (80%) had average knowledge regarding Revised National Tuberculosis programme. The selected staff nurses (80%) had average knowledge regarding DOTS therapy under RNTCP programme. There is no much difference in the knowledge with regard to certain demographic variables. Thus, it is established that there is no association between the knowledge score with demographic variables (qualification, experience, exposure and area of work). The staff nurses had maximum knowledge regarding prevention of tuberculosis and minimum knowledge regarding detection of TB cases.

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