

KNOWLEDGE , ATTITUDE & PRACTICE OF HAND HYGIENE AMONG HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AT A TERTIARY HEALTH CARE HOSPITAL OF DELHI NCR

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Introduction:

Hand Hygiene is recognized as the leading measure to prevent the cross transmission of micro-organisms and to reduce the incidence of health care associated infections. Regarding Hospital Acquired Infections the compliance of health care providers with hand washing guidelines seems to be vital in preventing the disease transmission among patients. Although the techniques involved in hand hygiene are simple, compliance with hand hygiene guidelines is poor worldwide.

Objective:

To assess the Knowledge, Attitude & Practice regarding hand hygiene amongst health care providers in a tertiary care hospital of Delhi NCR.

Methods:

A cross-sectional study was conducted among 213 health care providers of a tertiary care hospital. Knowledge was assessed using WHO's Hand Hygiene Questionnaire for health care providers. For assessing attitude and practice each correct answer was awarded a score of 2, for neutral response a score of 1 and for incorrect response a score of 0 was awarded. Quartiles were generated for each component. Based on these quartiles knowledge, attitude and practice were classified into adequate and inadequate. Descriptive Analysis was done with frequencies and summary statistics. Chi-square statistics was computed and p-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results:

The study participants included 49.8% males and 50.2% females. 82.6% participants belonged to age group 20-30 years. 14.1% were Doctors, 14.8% were Nurses, 16% were Lab technicians and 29.1% were Grade III workers. 50.2% has adequate knowledge, 48.8% had adequate attitude and 43.7% adequate practice regarding hand hygiene. A significant association between the job title and hand hygiene knowledge, attitude and practice was observed. (p<0.000)

Conclusion:

There is a continuous need for training workshops to be organized among health care providers to improve hand hygiene.