

# A Descriptive Study to Assess on Knowledge and Attitude of Nurses Regarding Prevention of Pressure Ulcers in Selected Hospitals

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## Abstract

**Background:** - In spite of the fact that decubitus ulcer progress is normally viewed as a sign for standard of the care provided by the nurse, queries and anxiety about the condition during which they are inevitable still persists. **Objective:** To assess the knowledge and attitude of the nurses regarding safeguard of the pressure ulcers in selected hospitals. **Methodology:** A Non-Experimental Descriptive Research Approach is used. 60 samples were selected by using Nonprobability Purposive Sampling Technique. Investigator used structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge, 5-point Likert's scale to assess the attitude. **Result:** Majority of the subjects (67%) were between the age group 21-25 years while the remaining (33%) subjects were of the age group of 26 -30 years. Majority of the subjects (57%) were females while (43%) were males. Majority of the subjects (98.3%) were B.Sc. nurses while (17%) Post Basic B.Sc. qualified. Majority of the subjects (64%) had 2.1 - 4 years of experience while the remaining (36%) had 1- 2 years of experience. Majority of the subjects (75%) had good knowledge score and the remaining (25%) had average knowledge score. All of the subjects (100%) had a positive view score regarding anticipation of the pressure ulcers. **Conclusion:** Findings indicate that the questionnaire and Likert attitude scale was effective in assessing the knowledge and point of view of the nurses regarding the prevention of Bed sore. Study also concluded that majority of the nurses had good awareness and positive approach towards the prevention of pressure ulcer.

**Keywords:** Assess, Knowledge, Attitude, Nurses, Pressure ulcer.

## Introduction

Pressure Ulcer is defined as a localized vandalization to the skin or to the primary tissues generally above the skeletal prominence as a consequence of continuous pressure or abrasion [1]. The persons mostly at the possibility of acquiring pressure ulcers are the ones who has impaired mobility and bed ridden patients [2]. In Jordanian, a study was carried out which stated that the nurses possess inadequate knowledge related to prevention of pressure ulcer in contrast with the

national advisory pressure ulcer council guidelines. Hence it is essential for all the nurses to be acquainted with the guidelines which are standardize to prohibit any problems related with bed sores to foster patient safety and greater results [3]. The four mechanism which contribute towards the development of pressure ulcers are Moisture, Friction, External Pressure and Shearing. Pressure ulcers are caused due to inadequate blood supply to the tissues. The most common sites of Bed sores are ischial tuberosity, sacrum, Heels, buttocks, shoulder blade, ball of foot, elbow and back of head [4].

Various reasons add on to the occurrence of Pressure ulcers which includes poor nutrition, ageing, abrasion, previous ulcers, smoking, restricted mobility, disease of the vascular periphery, diabetic mellitus and moisture. The attitude and knowledge of the nurses are seen as an extrinsic factor towards the formation of pressure ulcer [5].

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Awareness and a positive attitude to prevent the Bed sores and adequate knowledge are key factors to prevent the pressure ulcers effectively.

**Statement of the Problem:**

“A descriptive study to assess on knowledge and attitude of nurses regarding prevention of pressure ulcers in selected hospitals.”

**Objectives of the Study:**

1. To Assess the knowledge of the nurses regarding prevention of pressure ulcers in selected hospitals.
2. To Assess the attitude of nurses to prevent pressure ulcers in selected hospitals.

**Assumptions:**

Nurses in the selected hospitals may have awareness and a positive approach towards prevention of Bed sores.

**Operational Definitions:**

**Assess:** Assess refers to the make a judgement related to Pressure ulcer.

**Knowledge:** Knowledge refers to the understanding and awareness of nurses related to prevention of pressure ulcers.

**Attitude:** Attitude refers to the point of view of nurses towards the anticipation of decubitus ulcers.

**Nurses:** A person who is trained to provide care for the sick by preventing the ulceration.

**Pressure Ulcers:** Refers to the injury caused to the skin or underlying tissues by continuous pressure over it.

**Material and Methods**

A Non-Experimental Research design with quantitative approach was used. 60 samples selected by Non-Probability Purposive sampling technique. The study was conducted among the selected hospital of Pune city. The tool included two sections; the first section included demographic data the second section included a knowledge questionnaire and Likert scale for measuring the attitude related the precaution of pressure ulcer.

**Findings**

**Section- I**

**DISTRIBUTION OF SUBJECTS IN RELATION TO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**

**Table no.1: Distribution of staff nurses working in selected hospitals in relation to demographic data**

**n=60**

Parameters		No of nurses	Percentage (%)
Age of nurses (Years)	21 – 25	40	67
	26 – 30	20	33
Gender	Male	26	43
	Female	34	57
Education	B Sc	50	83
	PB B Sc	10	17
Total years of experience (Years)	1 – 2	22	36
	2.1 – 4	38	64

**SECTION - II**

**ANALYSIS OF LEVEL OF AWARENESS AND VIEWPOINT OF NURSES REGARDING PREVENTION OF DECUBITUS ULCERS**

**Table no.2: Distribution of level of knowledge score of nurses related to avoidance of ulcers**

	Poor (0-8)	Average (9-17)	Good (18-25)
Knowledge score	0%	25%	75%

**Table no.3: Distribution of attitude of the nurses regarding avoidance of Bed sores.**

Attitude of nurses regarding avoidance of Bed sores	Positive Attitude	Negative Attitude
Attitude Score	100%	0%

**Discussion**

In this present study a Non-Experimental Descriptive research design is been used. Non-Probability Purposive Sampling Technique was used for selecting 60 samples. The patient answered and the researcher recorded the answer. The tool included two section; the first section had demographic data and the second section included the knowledge questionnaire and Likert attitude scale. The data was analysed further which revealed Majority of the subjects 88.3% belonged to the age group of 21-25 years, 81.7% were females, 51.7% of the subjects had 1-2 years of experience, none of the subjects received in service education. Also, majority of the subjects 58.33% had average knowledge and the remaining 41.67% had good knowledge in the pretest while in the post test all of the subjects 100% had a good knowledge score. 90% of the subjects had good practice score and the remaining subjects 10% had an average practice score in the pretest; while all the subjects 100% had a good practice score in the post test.

**Conclusion**

The findings indicate that the questionnaire and Likert attitude scale was effective in assessing the knowledge and attitude of nurses related to the anticipation of pressure ulcer. Study also concluded that majority of the nurses had good cognition and positive beliefs towards the elimination of pressure ulcer.

**Conflict of Interest:** - Nil

**Source of Funding-** Funded by self

**Ethical Clearance-:** Obtained from Institutional Research Committee and Hospital. Privacy and confidentiality maintained.

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