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A study to assess the effectiveness of planned teaching programme on fire safety measures in terms of knowledge and expressed practice among the nursing students of selected nursing colleges of Ahmedabad city

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Abstract

Background: Fire safety is the set of practice intended to reduce the destruction caused by fire. Fire safety measures include those that are intended to prevent ignition of an uncontrolled fire, and those that are used to limit the development and effects of a fire after it starts. Fire safety measures include those that are planned during the construction of a building or implemented in structures that are already standing, and those that are taught to occupants of the building.

Aims and Objectives: To assess the knowledge on fire safety measures among nursing students in selected nursing colleges of Ahmedabad city. To assess the expressed practice on fire safety measures among nursing students in selected nursing colleges of Ahmedabad city. To find out correlation between knowledge and expressed practice on fire safety measures among nursing students in selected nursing colleges of Ahmedabad city. To find out association between knowledge on fire safety measures among nursing students with selected demographic variables. To find out association between expressed practice on fire safety measures among nursing students with selected demographic variables.

Materials and Methods: The study was conducted among 60 Nursing Students studying in Nursing Colleges of Ahmedabad city using convenient sampling technique. Data were obtained using structured knowledge questionnaire to assess knowledge and structured Expressed practice questionnaire to assess Expressed practice. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyses the demographic data, structured knowledge questionnaire. Karl Pearson formula is used to find correlation whereas the association is determined by using Chi square formula.

Results and Conclusion: The study revealed that Mean Post knowledge score (14.74) was higher than Mean Pre-Test knowledge score (8.89) and calculated 't' value was (19.45) which was higher than tabulated value (2.00). The Mean Post-test Expressed practice score (10.18) was higher than Mean Pre-Test Expressed practice score (5.32) and 't' value was (18.06) which was higher than tabulated value (2.00). There exit a Moderate Positive correlation ($r = 0.54$) between Knowledge and Expressed practice. Study also revealed that there is significant association between Knowledge and Year of study. There is significant association between Expressed Practice and Age group, Gender and Year of study.

Keywords: Fire safety measures, nursing students, knowledge, practice

Introduction

There are general fire safety precautions you should follow regardless of where you live. Taking time to review tips about the following fire safety issues can help you create a safer and more secure living environment for you, your friends, and family.

Fire is a risk in every building - whether you sleep, study, or work there - you should always have an escape plan. You may need to escape within a few minutes of fire's start, so your safe exit depends on immediate warning from smoke alarms and advance planning of escape route. Fire safety is the set of practice intended to reduce the destruction caused by fire. Fire safety measures include those that are intended to prevent ignition of an uncontrolled fire, and those that are used to limit the development and effects of a fire after it starts. Fire safety measures include those that are planned during the construction of a building or implemented in structures that are already standing, and those that are taught to occupants of the building.

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Threats to fire safety are commonly referred to as fire hazards. A fire hazard may include a situation that increases the likelihood of a fire or may escape in the event a fire occurs.

Fire safety is often a component of building safety. Those who inspect buildings for violations of the fire code and go into schools to educate children on fire safety topics are fire department members known as fire prevention officers. The chief fire prevention officer or chief of fire prevention will normally train newcomers to fire prevention division and may also conduct inspections or make presentations.

The national fire protection association is an international non-profit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards.

Fire prevention programs may include distribution of smoke detectors, visiting schools to review key points with the students and implementing nationally recognized programs such as nfpa's "risk watch" and "learn not to burn".

Other programs can be purchased by fire departments or community organizations. These are usually designed to capture children's attention and relay important messages.

All programs tend to mix messages of general injury prevention, safety, fire prevention, and escape in case of fire. In most cases the fire department representative is regarded as the expert and is expected to present information in a manner that is appropriate for each age group.

Fire safety policies apply at the construction of a building and throughout its operating life. Building codes are enacted by local, sub national, or national governments to ensure such features as adequate fire exits, signage, and construction details such as fire stops and fire rated doors, windows, and walls. Fire safety is also an objective of electrical codes to prevent overheating of wiring or equipment, and to protect from ignition by electrical faults.

The Fire services are not well organized in India. In recent years, the requirements for fire safety cover have increased manifold whereas the development of Fire Service has not made much headway. The setting up of Industrial Plants at a fast pace with extensive use of hazardous materials and the construction of larger and taller buildings have multiplied the problems of firefighting. The fire hazards are no longer confined to big cities and manufacturing centres only. Vast quantities of hazardous commodities are daily moved by different modes of transport all across the country posing complicated fire rescue problems. If the objective of ensuring safety of life and property in urban and rural areas is to be achieved, then a complete over-hauling of fire service organization is called for. The fire services need to be organized properly with adequate infrastructure and equipment for keeping pace with advancement of technology and economic growth.

Role of fire services in India: Role of Fire Service in India broadly is extinguishing fire and protecting life and property in case of fire. Fire Service role has changed dramatically in the last few years. Some changes were influenced by external forces, while the impetus for others was the organization itself. All these changes have increased the risk of the profession. The fire service now responds to hazardous material incidents, advanced emergency medical situations, high angle rescue and confined space rescue incidents, trench and collapse operations, underwater rescue and more. It has been said that "when the experts panic, they call the fire department." In the immediate aftermath of any

disaster coordinated search and rescue efforts are critical to saving lives and property. Past experience has shown that in the exigencies of disasters, whether it be a large scale or comparatively smaller ones the armed forces are frequently called upon to assist the civil authorities. However, the mobilization and deployment of armed forces for search and rescue delays response time which is critical for the survival of disaster victims. It is necessary that districts and States should have their own arrangements for carrying out search and rescue operations immediately after a disaster. Enhancement of search and rescue capabilities of the State and districts for quick response will save lives. This can be achieved with the minimum of additional cost by developing the Fire Services as multi hazard response units.

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