

THE EFFECT OF INFORMATION BOOKLET PROVIDED TO CAREGIVERS OF PATIENTS UNDERGOING HAEMODIALYSIS ON KNOWLEDGE OF HOME CARE MANAGEMENT

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The problem stated is to study the effect of information booklet provided to caregivers of patients undergoing haemodialysis on knowledge on home care management in Vijaya Dialysis Unit, Chennai.

The objectives of the study were to :

1. Assess the existing knowledge of the caregivers on home care management of patients undergoing haemodialysis.
2. Develop and provide information booklet for caregivers of patient undergoing haemodialysis after utilizing the booklet.
3. Reassess the knowledge of caregivers of patients undergoing haemodialysis
4. Compare pre and post assessment on the knowledge of the caregivers.
5. Compare the post-test knowledge of caregivers with selected demographic variables.

Null hypothesis as stated were:

HO1 "There is no significant difference in the pre and post assessment of the caregivers with respect to the knowledge in the home care management of patients undergoing haemodialysis.
HO2 "There is no correlation between the demographic variables with the post test knowledge scores"

An extensive review of literature

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ture and guidance by experts formed the foundation to the development of structured questionnaire and information booklet. The review of literature was done on topics related to home care management of haemodialysis patients, such a general information, dietary management, fluid management, care of vascular access site, worsening signs of kidney failure, and activities of daily living.

The conceptual framework was based on Callista Roy's Adaptation Model which was modified for the present study, which aims at improving the caregiver's need for their clients to maintain normal physiological function, self concept, role function and interdependence.

An evaluative research approach with pre-experimental one group pre-test post-test design was used to achieve the objectives of the study. The present study was conducted in Vijaya Dialysis Unit, Chennai with the sample size of 30, selected through Non probability convenient sampling technique.

The investigator used a structured questionnaire to elicit the demographic variables and knowledge of caregivers about home care management of haemodialysis patients, the data collection tools were validated and the reliability determined by pilot study following which data collection for main study was done.

After the pre-test, the information booklet containing information on home care management of haemodialysis patients

was provided to the care givers for guiding their patients. Post-test was conducted one week after the pretest.

The collected data was tabulated and analyzed using frequency distribution, percentage, mean, standard deviation, paired 't' test and analysis of variance test.

The major findings of the study showed that the overall knowledge score obtained by the caregivers in the pre-test was 50.35 and 86.25 in the post-test. The overall improvement in the mean score was 35-89 with the 't' value 13.4, which was highly significant at $p < .001$ level. These results showed significant improvement in caregivers' knowledge in post-test after understanding the information given in the booklet. The analysis of variance also showed that there was no correlation between the selected demographic variable with post-test knowledge scores.

The implications drawn were

1. Clinical nurses have to take up responsibility to plan teaching programmes to haemodialysis patient as well as caregivers. So nursing service must have policy of posting nurses with specialized training in dialysis and not on the age-old rotation basis.
2. The nurse education must aim to enable student nurses gain skill required to be able to practice the psychosocial principles in setup where highly technological interventions →

- are carried out.
- The nurse administrators must have police to acquire modern technological audio and video aids for continuing education programmes and symposiums to be carried out for nurses in dialysis unit regarding new hemodialysis machines, their applications, care of vascular access site, ADL, fluid management, identifying complications etc.,
 - Nurse researchers should work on psychosocial assessment techniques and develop various assessment scales for hemodialysis patients and their caregivers.

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