



A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING GENDER BASED CARE AMONG THE CLIENTS ADMITTED IN SMVMCH AT PUDUCHERRY

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ABSTRACT:

Introduction: Gender roles have had a major impact on the nursing profession, influencing the way healthcare is provided and received. In Nursing female-dominated field that has been deeply affected by traditional gender norms and stereotypes. **Objectives of the study:** The main objective of the study assess the knowledge regarding gender-based care among the clients admitted in SMVMCH at Puducherry and to associate between the gender-based care among the clients with their selected demographic variables. **Methodology:** A Comparative research design was adopted for the study. The population comprised of all clients admitted in SMVMCH, Puducherry. In this study, the sample size was 30 and convenient sampling technique was used. The data were collected from the male and female clients admitted in medical ward and surgical ward and the benefits of the study was explained. **Results:** The finding shows that, majority of the patient's 12 (40%) of them were satisfied with female Gender-based care, 7 (23.3%) of them were satisfied with male gender-based care, 8 (26.7%) were very satisfied with female gender-based care and 3 (10%) were very satisfied with male gender-based care. **Conclusion:** The study findings revealed that the majority of patients were highly satisfied with the female nurses while compared to the male nurses were moderately satisfied with the nursing care.

INTRODUCTION:

Gender roles significantly influence the nursing profession, affecting the way healthcare is provided and received. Traditional gender norms and stereotypes can challenge patients' pre-existing beliefs about gender roles in caregiving, with male nurses in traditionally female roles and female nurses in areas traditionally dominated by men. Understanding patient perceptions of gender-based care requires exploring the dynamics surrounding gender in the healthcare setting.

Patients' diverse expectations, concerns, and experiences related to their gender identity can impact how they interpret and respond to healthcare interactions. Healthcare providers' approaches to gender-sensitive issues, communication, and rapport contribute significantly to patient trust and satisfaction. Patients' preferences regarding their healthcare providers, rooted in cultural, religious, or personal beliefs, can significantly impact the quality of care received. Positive experiences within the healthcare system, such as sensitivity to privacy and respectful communication, can contribute to positive perceptions, while instances of gender bias, stereotyping, or insensitivity can undermine trust and satisfaction. Addressing these challenges can enhance the quality of care and foster a more inclusive healthcare environment.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

In 2019, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that over 12% of registered nurses were males, while in Canada it was around 7%. In Western countries, the percentage of male nurses is typically below 10%, but the proportion varies between 1-2% in China and as high as 16.7% in Spain. Despite some progress towards greater gender diversity, male representation in nursing remains low. In Slovenia, the number of male nurses with a bachelor's degree has been increasing, but the percentage of Registered Nursing Assistants (RNA) with a bachelor's degree has remained stable. Factors contributing to this increase include the establishment of new nursing programs, changes in public perception of nursing, and greater employment opportunities and job security. A study by Vivian Magdi Samuel et al. (2020) found that over half of patients had a positive perception of the care provided by male nurses, and that male patients preferred receiving care from male nurses more than female patients. However, young female patients may have reservations about receiving care from male nurses. The relationship between a client and their nurse is fundamental to healthcare delivery, and insights gained from this study can guide healthcare providers in delivering more culturally sensitive and inclusive care.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A comparative study to assess the knowledge regarding gender-based care among the clients admitted in SMVMCH, Puducherry.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To assess the knowledge regarding gender-based care among the clients admitted in SMVMCH at Puducherry.

To associate between the gender-based care among the clients with selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

A quantitative research approach and a comparative research design was selected for the present study. The present study was conducted at Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital., Puducherry. Using a convenient sampling technique 30 clients admitted in Medical and surgical ward at SMVMCH, Puducherry was selected. The tool consists of demographic data, and Checklist for Patient satisfaction with nursing care quality questionnaire. The outcome of the study was evaluated by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Inclusion criteria:

1. Clients who were admitted in selected hospitals.
2. Clients who were willing to participate in the study

Exclusion criteria:

1. Clients who were not willing to participate in the study
2. Clients who had severe sensory or cognitive impairment.

RESULTS**Table 1: Distribution of the knowledge regarding gender-based care among the clients.**

N = 30

S.NO	PATIENT SATISFACTION ON GENDER BASED CARE	MALE		FEMALE	
		n	%	n	%
1.	Not satisfied	0	0%	0	0%
2.	Satisfied	7	23.3%	12	40%
3.	Very satisfied	3	10%	8	26.7%

The above table reveals at frequency and percentage-wise distribution of gender-based care by the nurses among the clients. The finding shows that, majority of the patient 12 (40%) of them were satisfied with female gender-based care, 7 (23.3%) of them were satisfied with male gender-based care, 8 (26.7%) were very satisfied with female gender-based care and 3 (10%) were very satisfied with male gender-based care.

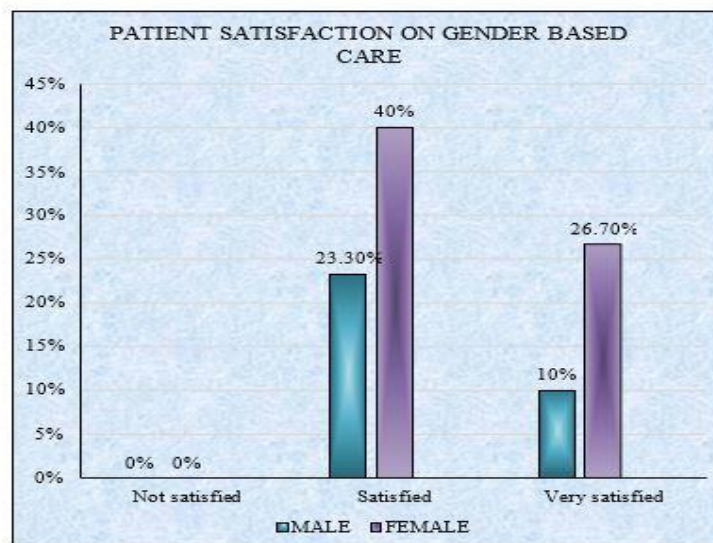
**Figure 1: Percentage wise distribution of assessment of the knowledge regarding gender-based care among the clients.**

Table 2: Comparison of patient satisfaction on gender-based care by male and female nurses.**N = 30**

Gender based care	Patient satisfaction	
	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Female nurse	40%	26.7%
Male nurse	23.3%	10%

The above table reveals the comparison of patient satisfaction on gender- based care by male and female nurses. On comparing the gender-based care by male and female nurses, the findings concluded that clients (40%) were satisfied by the female nurses than male nurses, 26.7% of patients were very satisfied by the female nurses than male nurses. It has been concluded that clients were satisfied by the female nurses than male nurses.

Table 3: Association between the gender-based care among the clients with their selected demographic variables**N = 30**

S.No	Demographic variables	N	X ² value	df	P value
1	Age in years		X ² = 7.041	df=3	p = 0.034 (S)*
	a) 21-30 years	5			
	b) 31-40 years	4			
	c) 41-50 years	8			
	d) ≥ 60 years	13			
2.	Sex		X ² = 3.015	df=1	p = 0.4217 (NS)
	a) Male	15			
	b) Female	15			
3.	Education qualification		X ² = 6.795	df=3	p = 0.0421 (S)*
	a) Primary education	5			
	b) Higher education	10			
	c) Graduation	3			
	d) Illiterate	12			

4.	Religion				
	a) Hindu	25	$X^2 = 3.964$	df=4	p = 0.758 (NS)
	b) Muslims	3			
	c) Christian	2			
	d) Others	0			
5.	Residential area				
	a) Rural area	12	$X^2 = 1.041$	df=4	p = 0.334 (NS)
	b) urban area	14			
	c) Semi-urban area	2			
	d) Semi- rural area	2			
6.	Occupation status				
	a) employed	18	$X^2 = 4.041$	df=4	p = 0.334 (NS)
	b) unemployed	0			
	c) self-employed	2			
	d) daily wages	10			
7	Family income				
	a) Above 50,000/-	5	$X^2 = 4.283$	df=3	p = 0.073 (NS)
	b) 30,000-50,000/-	10			
	c) 10001-30,000/-	15			
	d) Less than 10,000/-	0			
8	Type of family				
	a) nuclear	18	$X^2 = 3.218$	df=3	p = 0.431 (NS)
	b) joint	12			
	c) extended family	0			
9.	Duration of hospitalization				
	a) less than a month	12	$X^2 = 3.684$	df=3	p = 0.408 (NS)
	b) more than a month	2			
	c) more a two month	0			
	d) less a week	16			
10.	Source of information				
	a) social media	9	$X^2 = 7.684$	df=3	p = 0.03 (S)*
	b) Internet	13			
	c) T.V	8			
	d) Newspaper	0			

*p<0.05 - Significant; p<0.01 - Highly Significant

The above table shows that there is significant association between age in years, education qualification and source of information with the gender-based care by the nurses among the clients where 'p' value is < 0.05.

There is no significant association between Sex, Religion, Residential area Occupation status, Family

income, Type of family, Duration of hospitalization with the gender-based care by the nurses among the clients.

MAJOR FINDING OF THE STUDY

Regarding the age in years, the majority 13 (43.3%) were in the age group ≥ 60 years, 8 (26.7%) were above the age group of 41-50 years and 4 (13.3%) were in the age group of 31-40 years. In the aspect of sex, the data shows majority 15 (50%) were male and 15 (50%) were female. With regards to educational qualification majority 12 (40%) were Illiterate, 10 (33.3%) were completed higher education and 5 (16.7%) were completed primary education. In the aspect of religion majority, 25 (83.3%) were Hindu, 3 (10%) were Muslim and 2 (6.7%) were Christian. With regards to residential area majority, 14 (46.7%) were in urban area and 2 (6.7%) were in semi urban area. In the aspect of occupation status majority, 18 (60%) were employed, 2(6.7%) were self-employed and 10 (33.3%) were daily wages. Regarding family income, the data shows that the majority 15 (60%) come under 10001-30000 and 10(33.3%) were come under 30000-50000. In the aspect of type of family, majority 18 (60%) were in nuclear family and 12 (40%) were in joint family. Regarding duration of hospitalization majority 16 (53.3%) were in less than a week, 12 (40%) were in less than a month. In the aspect of source information majority, 13 (43.3%) were had source from internet, 9 (30%) were had source from social media and 8 (26.7%) were had source from T.V.

CONCLUSION

The study findings revealed that the majority of patients were highly satisfied with the female nurses while compared to the male nurses were moderately satisfied with the nursing care. The aspect of patient's satisfaction is indeed a very essential determinant of nursing service quality. Nursing administrators and nurses can utilize the findings to recognize the strengths and weaknesses of gender-based nursing services and adopt necessary measures in enhancing the quality of nursing care in order to increase the patient satisfaction.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Same study can be conducted with large samples.
2. Same study can be conducted among nursing students on factors influencing gender-based care by the nurses.

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