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# EFFECTIVENESS OF STRUCTURED TEACHING PROGRAMME ON KNOWLEDGE REGARDING LEGAL ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH AMONG GNM 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR STUDENTS IN SELECTED NURSING SCHOOL OF JAIPUR. A PRE-EXPERIMENTAL STUDY

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Legal issues in mental health nursing centre on confidentiality and the rights to privacy, informed consent, restraints, seclusion, and commitment issues. In this study legal issue includes Indian mental health act, Indian lunacy act, basic rights of mentally ill patients and nursing responsibilities, forensic psychiatry and legal responsibility of nurse. The aim of study was to (1) Assess the pre- test knowledge regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2nd year students. (2)To evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme (STP) regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2nd year students. (3) To find an association of knowledge score with selected demographic variable.

Methods: A pre experimental pre-test-post-test research design was adopted. Non-probability convenient sampling technique was used with sample size of 50 GNM 2nd year nursing students. Demographic scale and structured interview schedule were formulated to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme.

**Results:** The finding show that majority of subjects were in the age group of 21-24 years (58%),62% were males and 38% of them were females. 96% of the subjects were Hindu, and 4% were belonging to other religion. 42% of subjects had monthly family income up to more than 20000 Rs, 26% had between Rs 5000-10000, 18% had between Rs. 10001-15000 Rs and 14% of them had monthly family income 15001-20000 Rs. Respectively. 66% of the subjects were rural area, 34% were urban area. 100% of the subjects had no source of awareness of legal issues in mental health nursing . while applying pre-test 4% had poor level knowledge score, 56% had average, and 40% had good knowledge score. Mean Pre-test knowledge score was  $11.52 \pm 2.95$ . Similarly while

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doing post-test 52% subjects had Good knowledge score, 34% had very good and 12% had average and 2% had excellent level of knowledge score. Mean Post -test knowledge score was  $16.86 \pm 3.58$ . Therefore the post -test mean knowledge score was higher 16.86 with SD of  $\pm 3.58$  when compared with mean pre- test knowledge score which was 11.52 with SD of  $\pm 2.95$ . Hence pre-test post-test knowledge score was significant at 0.05% level of significance. However no significant association was found in knowledge score with selected demographic variable.

**Conclusion:** The study revealed that the level of knowledge score was high with respect to legal issues in mental health nursing among the subjects.

Keyword: GNM  $2^{nd}$  year Students, knowledge, structured teaching programme, legal issues, Mental Health Nursing.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

World Health Organization (WHO), defined Health as being "a state of Complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity"<sup>1</sup>

The definition of mental health is viewed as "the successful adaptation to stressors from the internal or external environment, evidenced by thought, feeling, and behaviour that are age – appropriate and congruent with local and cultural norms." <sup>2</sup>

Psychiatric nursing is the science and art of providing protective, therapeutic, supportive, physical and social care to the people too ill to be completely responsible for management for their own behaviour. For clients in mental hospitals and other institutional settings, the psychiatric nurse is the primary health care provider and is in fact, a primary mental health care nurse. Nursing is an emerging profession. The professional nurses demonstrates unique skills, critical thinking and systematically inquiry and uses discretion and judgment in practice. Legal issues in psychiatric nursing — Nurse must learn to value, respect and develop knowledge about laws, legislation and the legal processes that regulate impede, and facilitate professional practice by being aware of such standard, staying informed about new and changing legislation that affect clinical practices and understanding proposed and passed legislation affecting mental health care, psychiatric — mental health nurses can provide quality care that safeguard the rights and safety of clients.

The term law is derived from its tentoric root "lag" which means something which lies fixed or events. Law means a body of rules to guide human action. The law constitutes body of principles recognized or enforced by public and regular tribunals have the administration of justice.<sup>3</sup> there is now increasing awareness of rights in our democratic set up which results in an increase in litigation. Civil rights movements and consumer protection councils are gaining more and more importance in our day-to-day life. Hence mental health professionals should have a better understanding to the medico-legal aspects of mental health. The mental health professional should know the following basic forensic psychiatry-

☐ Crime and psychiatric disorders.
☐ Criminal responsibility.
□Civil responsibility.
☐ Laws relating to psychiatric disorders.

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☐ Admission and discharge procedures of patients	s in a psychiatric	hospital
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☐ Civil rights of the patient.

Psychiatric nurse should be sufficiently aware of legal aspects of psychiatry. This will help to protect the patient's right and avoid in giving poor advice or innocently involving herself in legal issues. Till about 17th century, all abnormal behaviour were believed to be act of the 'devil' i.e. 'Against God'. In the modern era, there was a shift from 'evil' to 'ill. Thus number of general hospitals & Psychiatric Units were started to deal with the mentally ill patients. Along with this developed the concept of forensic psychiatry which is the branch of medicine that deals with disorders of the mind and their relation to legal principles. It continues to be concerned primarily with mentally disordered offenders but now encompasses a wide range of offences and gives much prominence to diagnosis, management and treatment in prison, hospital or the community using the skills of various mental health professionals. It has long been known that there is a dynamic relationship between the concept of mental illness, the treatment of the mentally ill and the law. Government of India has made so many acts in which various provisions related to patient safety, admission, discharge, confidentiality of information, protection of property are made. A part from this, number of other acts such as Consumer Protection Act (1986), Indian Evidence Act (1925), Person With Disability Act (1996), and Suicide Criminal Act IPC SEC 309 have come up to protect the patient rights during treatment and hospitalization.

Kunjumon BP, conducted a study to assess the knowledge and practice of trained nurses in protecting patients' rights at Kochi, Kerala revealed that more than half (65%) have moderate level of knowledge while only one third of the subjects have high level of knowledge about patients'rights. Since the legal and ethical context of care is important for all psychiatric nurses because it focuses concern on the rights of patients and the quality of care they receive and nurses are responsible 24 hours of the day in the ward and the final responsibilities of the ward management is on the nurse, a nurse should therefore be well-versed in legal and ethical aspects of care and treatment of the mentally ill. Houlihan GD while examining the powers and duties of psychiatric nurses under the Mental Health Act 1983 with respect to the care and treatment of mentally disordered people reported the vitality of sound working knowledge of their powers and duties under current legislation. 8

### NEED OF THE STUDY

The most common legal and ethical challenges facing the nursing profession include:

- 1. The appropriate use of social media in relationship to their workplace.
- 2. Balancing the need to provide care for patients with pressure to be more efficient in the use of time and resources.
- 3. Dealing with conflict in the workplace
- 4. Coping with staffing shortage.<sup>9</sup>

Every nurse should act for nursing practice while caring for patient since negligence may cause a great distress to nurse .for the implementation of high quality of nursing practice in the world of latest medical technological advances are good knowledge of legal right is necessary.<sup>10</sup> Knowledge of the legal boundaries governing psychiatric nursing practice is necessary to protect the public, the patient and the nurse. The practice of psychiatric nursing is influenced by law, particularly in its concern for the rights of patients and the quality of care they receive.<sup>11</sup> Nurses must understand the scope of practice that is protected by their license, and should

seek assistance from legal counsel if they are unsure about the proper interpretation of nurse practice act. 12 About 2-5% of India's population suffers some form of mental or behavioural disorder. Around 1% has a serious form of mental disorder requiring urgent care at any point of time. No less than 10-15% of those attending general health facilities have a common mental disorder. <sup>13</sup> National Institute of Mental Health (1994) revealed that 40% to 60% of the population received care from family. Human right is so important issue in psychiatric field recognizing the basic needs of an individual. The nurses must know the rights of mentally ill person; and support them in liberty, treatment needs and applicable requirements. People with mental illness are more likely to be convicted of crime than without a mental illness. In one study women with at least one psychiatric admission were 3.08 to 11.27 times more likely to be convicted of crime and men were 2.29 to 11.27 times more likely to be convicted than their non-mentally ill counterpart Prisoner have three times the prevalence of mental illness than the general population. (Schimmels, 2005).<sup>14</sup>

A descriptive survey approach was made in R.L. Jalapa Hospital and Research Centre, Tamka, Kolar among 30 Staff nurses (15 Diploma staff nurses and 15 Graduate staff nurses) to assess the attitude towards rights of hospitalized psychiatric patients and result showed that 83.45% of graduate nurses and 100% of diploma nurses had unfavourable attitude and 16.6% of graduate nurses having favourable attitude and concluded that it is needed to develop nursing guidelines in protecting human rights of mentally ill patients.<sup>15</sup>

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

"A study to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in selected nursing school at Jaipur".

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- To assess the pre- test knowledge regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme (STP) regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.
- To find out the association between knowledge score with selected demographic variable.

#### **HYPOTHESIS**

- H1-:- There will be significant difference between pre- test and post- test knowledge score regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.
- **H2-** There will be significant association between the pre-test and post- test knowledge score regarding legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students with selected demographic variables.

#### **ASSUMPTIONS**

The study assume that- (1). The GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year Students will have some knowledge on legal issues in mental health nursing. (2). Structured teaching program will improve the knowledge program will improve the knowledge regarding legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.

#### **DELIMITATION**

The study is delimited to: (1). The GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students of selected nursing school at Jaipur.

(2). The GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> students who will be available during data collection.

#### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:-**

Quantitative approach was used to achieve the objectives of the study. The research design used for the study was pre-experimental one group pre-test and post- test design. The setting of present study was nursing college at Jaipur. In this study sample consists of 50 students. Non-probability convenient sampling technique was used in the age group between 17 to 28 years was done with an inclusion criteria - (1) Who are willing to participate in the study? (2) Who are available at the time data collection and exclusion criteria-(1) Who are not willing to participate? (2) Have attended any conference or workshop class regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing? A formal written permission was obtained from the Principal of Institute of medical technology and nursing education Sitapura Jaipur. In view of nature of the problem and to accomplish the objectives of the study a structured interview schedule was prepared and thirty questions were formulated to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in selected nursing school at Jaipur. Reliability and validity of the tool was ensured in consultation with guide and experts in the related field. The data was collected and analysed by using descriptive and inferential statistics according to objectives and hypothesis of the study. Data was collected within 6 weeks.

#### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1: Distribution of GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students with regards to level of pre-test knowledge regarding legal issues in mental health

N=50

Score Range	Percentage score	Level of Pre-test Frequency	Knowledge Score Percentage	
1-6	0-20%	2	4%	
7-12	21-40%	28	56%	
13-18	41-60%	20	40%	
19-24	61-80%	0	0	
25-30	81-100%	0	0	
Mean±SD			$11.52 \pm 2.95$	
Mean %			38.4%	
Range			04 to 18	
	Range  1-6  7-12  13-18  19-24  25-30  Mean±SD  Mean %	Range score  1-6 0-20%  7-12 21-40%  13-18 41-60%  19-24 61-80%  25-30 81-100%  Mean±SD  Mean %	Score Range         Percentage score         Frequency           1-6         0-20%         2           7-12         21-40%         28           13-18         41-60%         20           19-24         61-80%         0           25-30         81-100%         0           Mean±SD         11.52           Mean %         38	

Table 2: Distribution of GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students with regards to level of post-test knowledge regarding legal issues in mental health

N = 50

knowledge		Percentage	Level of Post-test Knowled Score	
score	Range	score	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	1-6	0-20%	0	0
Average	7-12	21-40%	6	12%
Good	13-18	41-60%	26	52%
Very Good	19-24	61-80%	17	34%
Excellent	25-30	81-100%	01	2%
Mean $\pm$ SD $16.86 \pm 3.58$		5 ± 3.58		
Mean %			56.2 %	
Range			10 to 26	

#### **DISCUSSION**

The result showed 58% of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year student were in the age group of 21-24 years, 38% were in the age group of 17-20 years, 2% were belonging to the age group of 25-28 years and only 2% of them were more than 28 years respectively. 62% of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students were males and 38% of them were females. 96% of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students were Hindu, and 4% were belonging to other religion. 42% of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students had monthly family income up to more than 20000 Rs, 26% had between Rs 5000-10000, 18% had between Rs. 10001-15000 Rs and 14% of them had monthly family income 15001-20000 Rs. Respectively. 66% of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students were rural area, 34% were urban area. 100% of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students had no source of awareness of legal issues in mental health nursing respectively. Showed 4% of GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in pre-test had poor level of knowledge score, 56% had average, and 40% had good level of knowledge score. Mean Pre-test knowledge score of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students was 11.52 ± 2.95. 52% of GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in post-test had Good, 34% had very good and 12% had average and 2% had excellent level of knowledge score. Mean Post -test knowledge score of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students was 16.86 ± 3.58. Shows the overall mean pre -test and post- test knowledge score of GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students from selected nursing schools of the city which reveals that post -test mean knowledge score was higher 16.86 with SD of ±3.58 when compared with mean pre- test knowledge score which was 11.52 with SD of ±2.95. The statistical Student's

paired t test implies that the difference in the pre-test and post-test knowledge among GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students was found to be T-value 2.010 and P-value 23.81.which is statistically significant at 0.05% level of significance. The results of the study revealed that no significant association is found between knowledge regarding legal issues in mental health nursing with age, gender, religion, family monthly income, source of awareness, types of hospital for practical experienced by using chi-square test.

#### **CONCLUSION**

On the basis of findings conclusions were drawn-

- The present study identified deficit knowledge regarding the legal issues in mental health nursing.
- Education was necessary for improving knowledge of the GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students regarding legal issues in mental health nursing.
- The structured teaching programme was effective in improving the knowledge of GNM 2<sup>nd</sup> year students on legal issues in mental health nursing.

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