"A Descriptive study on awareness, perception regarding expected and performed role and competency of nursing personnel involved in implementing national programme for prevention and control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases and stroke services (NPCDCS) at selected Government health centres in South Kerala"

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ABSTRACT

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) are one of the major health and development challenges of the 21st century, in terms of both the human suffering they cause and the harm they inflict on the socioeconomic fabric of countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries. Nurses can play an integral role in preventing, reducing and treating NCDs. Nurses can provide health education on an individual and community level, have access to continuing education resources to specialize and build their capacity for care, and work interdisciplinary with other health care and public health professionals to provide the most comprehensive care.

Objective: The present study was done with a primary objective of assessing the awareness, perception regarding expected and performed role and competency of nursing personnel involved in the implementation of NPCDCS services.

Materials and Methods: The study was conducted at Government Health centers in Alappuzha district, Kerala. The samples for the study included nursing personnel involved in the implementation of NPCDCS services in Alappuzha district, Kerala. Total enumeration technique (sample size=452) was used for the selection of subjects for the present study. Structured self-reported NPCDCS awareness proforma, PHN perceptions regarding expected and performed roles proforma and Public health nurse competency instrument (PHNCI) were used to collect data from nursing personnel involved in the implementation of NPCDCS services.

Results: Majority of the study participants (68.6%) had good awareness related to non
communicable diseases and NPCDCS programme and nobody had poor knowledge regarding NPCDCS services. More than half of the study participants (53.5%) had expected a moderate role in the implementation of NPCDCS programme and nearly half of the study participants (45.3%) had perceived that they are expected to have a lot of role (high) in the implementation NPCDCS programme. Majority of the study participants (88.3%) had perceived that they have performed a lot (high) in the implementation of NPCDCS programme. With regard to overall competency, majority of the study participants (67.5%) had good competency in implementing NPCDCS programme. The assessment of relationship between knowledge, expected /performed role and competency of nursing personnel showed that correlation co efficient ‘r’ is significant and there was positive correlation among awareness Vs perception regarding expected role (r = 0.096, p < 0.05 ), awareness Vs perception regarding performed role (r = 0.122, p < 0.01 ) and awareness Vs competency ( r = 0.229, p < 0.001), perception regarding expected role Vs performed role (r = 0.605, p < 0.001 ), perception regarding expected role Vs competency (r = 0.204, p < 0.01 ) and perception regarding performed role Vs competency ( r = 0.289, p < 0.001).

**Key words:** Non communicable diseases, Awareness, Perception regarding expected and performed role, Competency, NPCDCS