



A Study To Assess Knowledge Regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017 Among Staff Nurses Working In Selected Psychiatric Units At Meerut In Order To Develop An Information Booklet.

¹Ms.Nandini,²Mrs.Zeba Azam Tyagi,

¹PG Student, ²Associate Professor,

¹Mental Health Nursing,

¹KMC College of Nursing College, Meerut,India

Abstract: A study to assess knowledge regarding mental health care act 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric units at Meerut in order to develop an information booklet. The objective of the study were To assess the knowledge regarding MHCA 2017 among staff nurses at selected psychiatric unit. To findout association between level of knowledge on MHCA 2017 with their selected demographic variables. To develop information booklet regarding MHCA 2017. The research approach adopted for a descriptive research design convenient sampling purposive sampling technique the setting of the study was selected Mental Health Unit at Meerut was used to collect the samples. The population comprised of staff nurses at psychiatric unit. Convenient sampling purposive sampling technique was used to select 40 staff nurses working. A self-structured knowledge Questionnaire was prepared to assess the knowledge regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at Meerut. the reliability of the tool, feasibility was verified through a tryout and pilot study. The reliability of the tool was established by Test retest method formula. The data collected was analysed using descriptive statistics. As per Age in year, with 65% aged between 21-25 years , and by 25% in the 26-30 age range, A small portion falls between 31-35 (8%) and 36-40 years (3%). As per gender distribution, 65% are female, while 35% are male. As per religion most participants identify as Hindu (83%), with smaller proportions identifying as Muslim (13%) and Christian (5%). As per residential , area, 60% live in urban areas, while 40% reside in rural settings.. As per marital status of participants shows that 73% are unmarried, while 28% are married. As per Educational qualifications reveal that 63% hold a B.Sc.in Nursing,18% have a Post Basic B.Sc.in Nursing,13% have a G.N.M.qualification, and 8% hold an M.Sc.inNursing. In terms of work experience in psychiatric units, the majority (83%) have 1-2 years of experience, while 15% have worked for 3-4 years, and a small percentage (3%) have 5-6 years of experience. As per Knowledge sources include mass media (40%), continuing education (33%), and training (28%), with no participants indicating refresher courses as a source. The mean knowledge score (12.75) of staff nurses regarding MHCA 2017. The majority of the samples i.e. 47.5% are having good knowledge, 42.5% are having average knowledge and the remaining 10.0% are having poor knowledge regarding MHCA 2017. The standard deviation score is 4.70 it indicating that staff nurses have good knowledge regarding MHCA 2017.

I. INTRODUCTION

MHCA 2017 states in its introduction that it is ‘An Act to provide for mental healthcare and services for persons with mental illness and to protect, promote and fulfill the rights of such persons during delivery of mental healthcare and services and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto’. MHCA specifically aims to protect and promote the rights of persons with mental illness during delivery of healthcare in institutions and in the community, and to ensure mental healthcare, treatment and rehabilitation in the least restrictive environment possible. The Act has provisions for involuntary (supported) admission and treatment of persons with high support needs in mental health institutions, with defined procedures for those needing admission for up to 30 days and those requiring a hospital stay of more than 30 days. Similarly, there is a procedure for admission of minors. All admissions longer than 30 days are to be notified to the designated Mental Health Review Board (MHRB). There is also a provision for emergency treatment for persons with mental illness in a health establishment or in the community. The Act has introduced the concepts of advance directives and nominated representatives; it also includes extensive details about the rights of persons with mental illness and outlines the duties of the appropriate governments in this regard. To implement the new provisions, there are directions to the central and state governments to establish a Central Mental Health Authority, as well as State Mental Health Authorities (SMHAs) at the state level and MHRBs at a district level. As it involves substantial changes from the previous MHA of 1987, the MHCA 2017 is likely to have a major influence on mental healthcare in India. The MHCA 2017 provides a comprehensive definition of mental illness as ‘a substantial disorder of thinking, mood, perception, orientation or memory that grossly impairs judgment, behaviour, capacity to recognise reality or ability to meet the ordinary demands of life, mental conditions associated with the abuse of alcohol and drugs, but does not include mental retardation which is a condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind of a person, specially characterised by subnormality of intelligence’. Thus, patients with common mental disorders such as depression, anxiety disorders and even psychoses, where judgement, capacity and ability to meet the ordinary demands of life are not affected, may not come under this definition of mental illness for purposes of the Act and therefore can be admitted to or discharged from a hospital in the same manner as patients with any other illness. The MHCA 2017 stresses that admissions to the mental health establishment should be voluntary (independent) where possible. The procedure for involuntary (supported) admission as stated in the MHCA 2017 is more cumbersome than that in the MHA 1987. The MHA 1987 had a provision for admission under special circumstances, which permitted admission of a patient on the written request of a family member. This facilitated admission of a large number of patients who were not in a condition to give consent, without going through legal formalities that may lead to delay.

Material and Methods:

The researcher in this study aimed at assessing the knowledge of staff nurses regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017. Convenient sampling purposive sampling technique was used to select 40 staff nurses working. A self-structured knowledge Questionnaire was prepared to assess the knowledge regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at Meerut. Data was analyzed by using Descriptive Statistics (Frequency, Mean, Standard Deviation, and Percentage) at Chi-square test was used to find out the association and selected demographic variables values, the p-value 0.05 was accepted as statistically significant.

Conclusion

The following conclusion is drawn on the basis of the findings of the study. The findings showed that the staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at Meerut are having good knowledge regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017. Findings also show that there is a no significant association between knowledge

level of staff nurses and their demographic variables. Hence it is concluded that the knowledge level of staff nurse is good regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017.

DISCUSSION

The main findings of the research study and reviews that are in relation to the findings from the result of the present study. For this study the data was obtained from the SVBP Hospital at Meerut knowledge regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at the Meerut. In order to achieve the objectives of the study quantitative research design was adopted and 40 samples were included in this study. The aim of the study is to assess the Knowledge score regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at the Meerut. The level of knowledge was evaluated by self-structured knowledge questionnaire and the association of level of knowledge regarding Mental Health Care Act 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at the Meerut with their selected demographic variables were also analyzed by Chi-square test.

Lakshmi R. A study to assess the knowledge regarding mental health act among staff nurses at selected psychiatric hospitals in bangalore with a view to develop an information guide sheet Objectives of the study were • To assess the knowledge regarding Mental Health Act among Staff Nurses at selected psychiatric hospitals. • To find out an association between the levels of knowledge on mental health act among Staff Nurses at selected psychiatric hospitals with selected demographic variables. • To develop and provide information guide sheet regarding mental health act. Methods Descriptive exploratory survey design was used for the study. The study was conducted at Spandana hospital private limited, Bangalore. Fifty staff nurses through purposive sampling technique who met the inclusion criteria were included in the study. The tool used was a knowledge questionnaire. The study showed that very few samples have excellent knowledge on mental health act and hence enhancement of knowledge in the area of mental health legislation can have a positive impact on the care rendered by the nurses

References -

- 1- World health organization. Mental health. MS word:organization;2024. Available from: https://www.who.int/health-topics/mental-health#tab=tab_1
- 2- Singh V, Kumar A, Gupta S. Mental Health Prevention and Promotion- A Narrative Review. *Front Psychiatry*. 2022 Jul 26;13:898009. doi: 10.3389/fpsyt.2022.898009. PMID: 35958637; PMCID: PMC9360426..
- 3- Farreras, I.G. (2024). History of mental illness. In R. Biswas-Diener & E. Diener (Eds), *Noba textbook series: Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF publishers. Retrieved from <http://noba.to/65w3s7ex>
- 4- Math SB, Basavaraju V, Harihara SN, Gowda GS, Manjunatha N, Kumar CN, Gowda M. Mental Healthcare Act 2017 - Aspiration to action. *Indian J Psychiatry*. 2019 Apr;61(Suppl 4):S660-S666. doi: 10.4103/psychiatry.IndianJPsychiatry_91_19. PMID: 31040454; PMCID: PMC6482691.
- 5- Chadda RK. Influence of the new mental health legislation in India. *BJPsych Int*. 2020 Feb;17(1):20-22. doi: 10.1192/bji.2019.18. PMID: 34287412; PMCID: PMC8277537.
- 6- Sreevani R. *The textbook of mental health & psychiatric nursing* 5th edition JAYPEE publication page no. 370-371
- 7- Kelly BD. Mental health, mental illness, and human rights in India and elsewhere: What are we aiming for? *Indian J Psychiatry*. 2016 Dec;58(Suppl 2):S168-S174. doi: 10.4103/0019-5545.196822. PMID: 28216765; PMCID: PMC5282611.
- 8- Sharma Suresh K. *The test book of nursing research & statistics* 2nd edition Elsevier publisher
- 9- Uvais NA, Joag K. Perceptions regarding the Indian Mental Healthcare Act 2017 among psychiatrists: Review and critical appraisal in the light of CRPD guidelines. *Cambridge Prisms: Global Mental Health*. 2024;11:e39. doi:10.1017/gmh.2024.31
- 10- Ketki Ranade, Arjun Kapoor, Tanya Nicole Fernandes, Mental health law, policy & program in India—A fragmented narrative of change, contradictions and possibilities, *SSM - Mental Health*, Volume 2, 2022 100174,

- 11- Vashist, A., Kukreti, I., & Taneja, P. K. (2022). Implementation of Mental Health Care Act, 2017: Issues and Way Forward. Indian Journal of Public Administration, 68(2), 257-270.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00195561221080674>
- 12- Malla A, Margoob M, Iyer S, et al. A Model of Mental Health Care Involving Trained Lay Health Workers for Treatment of Major Mental Disorders Among Youth in a Conflict-Ridden, Low-Middle Income Environment: Part I Adaptation and Implementation. The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry. 2019;64(9):621-629. doi:10.1177/0706743719839318
- 13- TY- JOUR, AU- Wójcik, Marzena, AU- Belowska, Jarosława, AU- Zarzeka, Aleksander, AU- Panczyk, Mariusz. AU- Gotlib, Joanna, PY- 2015/06/16, EP- 21, T1- Assessment of knowledge of Mental Health Act among nurses, VL- 50, DO- 10.12923/p21w-2015-1/03., JO- Pielęgniarstwo XXI Wieku
- 14- Gandhi S, Poreddi V, Govindan R, G J, Anjanappa S, Sahu M, Narayanasamy P, N M, C N, Badamath S. Knowledge and perceptions of Indian primary care nurses towards mental illness. Invest Educ Enferm. 2019 Jan 6;37(1):e06. doi: 10.17533/udea.iee.v37n1a06. PMCID: PMC7871470.
- 15- Copyright ©2017, Mr. Rajratan and Lakshmi. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License,
which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Tables: Frequency & Percentage distribution level of knowledge regarding MHCA 2017 among staff nurses working in selected psychiatric unit at Meerut.

CRITERIA MEASURE OF KNOWLEDGE SCORE		
LEVEL OF SCORE SN=40	PERCENTAGE	FREQUENCY
GOOD KNOWLEDGE.(14-20)	47.5%	19
AVERAGE KNOWLEDGE.(7-13)	42.5%	17
POOR KNOWLEDGE.(0-6)	10.0%	4

Maximum=20 Minimum=0

