



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING SELECTED OBSTETRIC EMERGENCIES AMONG NURSING STUDENTS OF COLLEGE OF NURSING

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Obstetric emergencies are life-threatening medical problems that develop during pregnancy, labor, or delivery. It is the leading cause of maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity. Most maternal death is preventable by timely management by a Skilled health professional working in a supportive environment. **Methodology:** A cross-sectional survey was carried out at CON, AIIMS and Safdarjung New Delhi, to assess nursing student's knowledge regarding Obstetric emergencies. Convenient sampling was used to select 260 samples from Bsc and Post Bsc nursing students. Structured knowledge questionnaire was used to collect the data. **Result:** The study found that students had good knowledge regarding Obstetric emergencies (mean score  $9.56 \pm 2.583$ ). There was no statistically significant association between knowledge score and demographic variables like Age, educational qualification, previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies and any previous experience. **Conclusion:** The findings of the study concluded that Study subjects didn't possess adequate knowledge regarding selected obstetric emergencies in post-test so there was is a need to enhance their knowledge regarding obstetric emergencies.

## INTRODUCTION

There are a number of illnesses and disorders of pregnancy that can threaten the well-being of both mother and child. According to WHO report 2015, Worldwide nearly 600,000 women die every Year, due to complications arising from pregnancy and childbirth between the age of 15 and 49. [1] The obstetrical emergencies in pregnancies include ectopic pregnancy, pre-eclampsia, eclampsia, placenta previa, placenta abruption, and premature rupture of membrane. Obstetric emergencies during labor include amniotic fluid embolism, acute inversion of uterus, and rupture of uterus, placenta accrete, prolapsed umbilical cord and shoulder dystocia and obstetric emergencies after delivery include post-partum hemorrhage and shock. According to C Meh,a A Sharma 2021, The MMR declined in India by about 70% from 398/100 000 live births in 1997–98 to 99/100 000 (90–108) in 2020. About 1.30 million maternal deaths occurred between 1997 and 2020, with about 23 800 in 2020, The leading causes of maternal death were obstetric haemorrhage (47%; higher in poorer states), pregnancy-related infection (12%) and hypertensive disorders of pregnancy (7%).[3]. As per a study conducted by Dr Shahnaz teng 2021, the obstetric emergency has a profound effect on mother and fetus resulting in high maternal and perinatal morbidity and mortality. [4] Obstetrical hemorrhage is the leading cause of maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity. It comprises 46% of maternal mortality worldwide. Indian Maternal Mortality rate currently is 113/1000 live births. [2]

**Problem statement:** "A Cross-sectional study to Assess the knowledge Regarding Selected Obstetric emergencies among Nursing students Of College of Nursing"

### Objectives

- To assess knowledge of nursing students regarding Obstetric emergencies.
- To find out the association between knowledge score of Nursing students and selected demographic variables.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

A cross-sectional survey was carried out to assess knowledge regarding selected obstetric emergencies among Nursing students, of AIIMS and safdarjung College of Nursing, New Delhi. The study population comprised of Bsc (hons) nursing 3<sup>rd</sup>yr, 4<sup>th</sup> yr students, post Bsc nursing students of AIIMS and Safdarjung College of nursing, New Delhi. Purposive Convenient sampling technique was used to collect data from 260 study subjects who fulfilled the inclusion criteria. Independent Variables were Age, education qualification, experience and previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies whereas Dependent variable was knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies. Data was collected using self-structured Questionnaire for collecting demographic data, and for the assessment of knowledge.

The tool and the intervention were validated by a panel of experts. Tool tryout was carried out on 20 study subjects to check it for the clarity, relevance and to determine the time taken for collecting the data. Reliability co-efficient of tool was found to be 0.78 revealing the tool is consistent, precise and accurate for administration in the main study. Pilot study was conducted on 10 study subjects to assess the feasibility and practicability of the main study.

### Tools of the study

The study tool comprised of two sections.

**Section 1:** -Structured demographic questionnaire. It consisted of 4 items related to age, educational qualification, experience and the previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies.

**Section 2:** Structured knowledge questionnaire.

It consisted of 20 MCQs to assess knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies. Each item was carrying one mark for right answer whereas 0f zero for the wrong one; maximum score was 20 and minimum was 0. The score was divided into three categories: poor knowledge (1-7), average (8-14), good knowledge (15-20).

**Procedure for data collection:** After obtaining formal permission from the institutional ethical committee, data was collected during 8-15 oct 2023. The subjects were contacted individually. The purpose of the study was explained and informed consent was obtained. They were assured about confidentiality of the data collected. The data were collected by administering the tool.

**Data analysis:** The data obtained were entered in master data sheet and analyzed by using IBM SPSS version 26 software. Data were presented in the tables and figures with frequency, percentage, range, mean and standard deviation. Chi-square test was applied to find out the association.

## RESULTS

Description of Demographic Variables of Study Subjects Which Include Age, education qualification, experience and previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies. Majority (48.1%) of the subjects were in the age group of 20-25 Years (Table-1).

**Table 1. Frequency and percentage distribution of study subjects according to Age, education qualification, experience and previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies**

		N=260	
Demographic Variables		Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age	15-20 year	53	20.4
	20-25 year	125	48.1
	25-30 year	40	15.4
	30-35 year	42	16.2
Education Qualification	Bsc Nursing	200	76.9
	Post Basic B.sc. Nursing	60	23.1
Experience	Yes	62	23.8
	No	198	76.2
Previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies	Yes	102	39.2
	No	158	60.8

Majority (76.9%) of the subjects had Bsc nursing whereas only 23.1% subjects have Post Basic B.sc Nursing as their educational qualification. Majority of the subjects (76.2%) have no experience regarding obstetric emergencies whereas 23.8% subjects have experience related to selected obstetric emergencies.

**Table 2. Frequency distribution of the Knowledge score regarding selected obstetric emergencies**

N=260		
Knowledge Score	Frequency	Percentage
Poor Knowledge (0-7)	44	16.9
Average Knowledge (8-14)	194	74.6
Good Knowledge (15-20)	22	8.5

**Table 3. Mean Knowledge scores regarding selected obstetric emergencies**

N=260					
Knowledge score	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum	SEM
Obstetric emergencies	9.56	±2.583	4	17	0.160

**Table 4. Association of Post-Test knowledge level of study subjects regarding selected obstetric emergencies with selected demographic variable**

VARIABLE		N=260			CHI Square	df
		Poor Knowledge	Average Knowledge	Good Knowledge		
Age	15-20 year	10	40	3	0.896	6
	20-25 year	19	95	11		
	25-30 year	9	27	4		
	30-35 year	6	32	4		
Education Qualification	Bsc Nursing	31	153	6	0.434	2
	Post Basic B.sc. Nursing	13	41	16		
Experience	Yes	8	49	5	0.380	2
	No	36	145	17		
Previous knowledge related to Obstetric emergencies	Yes	21	74	15	0.605	2
	No	23	120	7		

About 60.8% subjects have no previous knowledge related to Selected Obstetric Emergencies whereas 39.2% have knowledge. Table 2 shows that 74.6% of subjects had average knowledge regarding Selected Obstetric emergencies whereas only 8.5% had good knowledge and 16.9% had Poor knowledge. The mean knowledge score of the students regarding selected Obstetric emergencies was 9.56±2.583 (table 3). Table 4 shows that knowledge regarding selected Obstetric emergencies of the Nursing student's was found to be not associated with age (p=0.896), educational qualification (p=0.434), experience (p=0.605) and previous knowledge regarding obstetric emergencies (p=0.380).

## DISCUSSION

In present study shows that majority 74.6% had average knowledge, 16.9% had Poor knowledge regarding selected Obstetric emergencies whereas only 8.5% had good Knowledge. The study found that students had average Knowledge regarding selected Obstetric Emergencies with mean score of 9.56±2.583. Majority (76.9%) of the subjects had Bsc nursing whereas only 23.1% subjects have Post Basic B.sc Nursing as their educational qualification. knowledge regarding selected Obstetric emergencies of the Nursing student's was found to be not associated with age (p=0.896), educational qualification (p=0.434), experience (p=0.605) and previous knowledge regarding obstetric emergencies (p=0.380). These Findings are in agreement with Ulfat Rashid , Muneera Bashir (2020) where among 60 Study subjects didn't possess adequate knowledge regarding management of selected obstetric emergencies in pre-test and There was no statistically significant association between pre-test knowledge level and demographic variables like gender, residence and any previous exposure at p<0.05 so there was a need to enhance their knowledge regarding management of obstetric emergencies. The findings are supported by a pre-experimental study conducted by Heikham R among the 50 Final Year nursing Students of Selected college of Nursing Belgaum, Karnataka on effectiveness of Planned Teaching Programme (PTP) on Knowledge Regarding Selected Obstetric.

Emergencies. The study results revealed that in pre-test 60% had average knowledge, 30% had poor knowledge and only 10% study subjects had good knowledge.

**Limitations:** This study was a descriptive, cross-sectional study with small sample size, and was limited to a single centre. So generalisation cannot be done.

#### Implications

**Nursing education:** Nursing Curriculum should include more studies with increased orientation clinical area of students.

**Nursing research:** More studies should be conducted regarding Obstetric emergencies of students to ascertain the level of knowledge and practice related to obstetric emergencies.

**Nursing administration:** Hospital administrators should plan more classes for Students regarding Obstetric Emergencies at clinical area. Recommendations. Similar multicentre study may be replicated with large sample size. Comparative study with randomization may be done. Study can be followed by providing teaching and after that post test can be taken.

## CONCLUSION

Nursing students form an integral and important component of maternal health care delivery system and their contribution in the event of complication as a part of team can be of paramount significance. The education and skill of a student nurse is designed to enable her fulfill their wide and varied role. The aim of assessing knowledge of student nurses is to prepare them for occupying the first-level position in nursing in all kinds of health care setting for better maternal outcome.

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