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Knowledge and attitude concerning Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) among Taif Medical College students of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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Objectives: To assess the knowledge about childhood ASD among second and sixth year medical students in Taif Medical College KSA.

Methods: The cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted in medical college of Taif city, KSA from September to December 2016. All students of second and sixth year who were present at the time of data collection were included in our study. Data collection was done among second and sixth year medical students by questionnaire regarding knowledge about childhood autism among health workers. Data was analysed using SPSS 20.

Results: In second year (group A) out of 163 students who completed the study there were 88 (54.0%) males, and 75 (46.0%) females, regarding sixth year (group B) total respondents were 84 students among which 44 (52.4%) males and 40 (47.6%) females. The mean score of questionnaire assessing knowledge for group B was (8.99±1.91) which was statistically higher than group A (6.44±2.24) $p<0.001$. Also, the attitude score for group B (3.92±0.97) was statistically higher than group A (3.29±1.33) $p<0.001$. Moreover, there was a significant correlation between overall knowledge and attitude of our study sample $p<0.001$.

Biography

Farihan Farouk Helmy has completed her Dr.PH from Alexandria University, Child Mental Health department and Post-doctoral studies from Alexandria University. She is running a Clinic (Behavioural problems and Autism) in Taif Children Hospital Ministry of health and also working as Assistant Paediatrics Professor in Medical College at Taif University.

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