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Knowledge, attitude and practice of health care providers toward Ebola virus disease in hotspots in Khartoum and White Nile states, Sudan, 2014

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Background: Ebola virus disease (EVD) is an infectious disease associated with a high fatality rate. Healthcare providers (HCPs) are frequently infected while treating patients with suspected or confirmed EVD. Knowledge of, attitudes toward, and practices of HCP toward EVD, especially in hot spots, is an essential element to control the disease.

Materials & Methods: In this descriptive, cross-sectional, health facility-based study, 258 HCPs were interviewed in different health facilities in hot spots in the targeted states, including district and federal hospitals and health centers, using a self-administrated questionnaire.

Results: Most respondents were house officers (40.7%), followed by nurses (26.4%). The remaining respondents were registrars, medical officers, and allied health professionals. All participants had heard about EVD. There were significant differences in the knowledge of doctors and allied health care providers regarding modes of transmission and clinical manifestations. Some false information, such as airborne transmission (53.1%) and insect transmission (20.2%), was reported by respondents. The majority of respondents (81.3%) claimed that they would treat patients with suspected EVD while taking a safe approach, 83.5% said they would notify health authorities about cases of suspected EVD, and 91.1% reported not attending any training sessions about EVD.

Conclusion: The media plays an important role in increasing awareness about EVD. Regardless, however, researchers recommend more in-service training for HCPs to increase their knowledge about EVD.

Biography

Musaab M Alfaki has completed his graduation medical school in Sudan. He has published more than 13 scientific researches in Internal Medicine and Neurology. He is a Co-founder of Daoud Research Group, which is the first medical research group that intended to encourage Undergraduates and young doctors to participate in medical research in Sudan.

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