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Knowledge, attitude and practice towards management of birth asphyxia among nurses and midwives working in labour ward and NICU in governmental hospitals, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**Ayantu Fekede**

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Statement of the problem: Birth asphyxia is failure to initiate and sustain breathing immediately after birth. According to world health organization (WHO), it is the third major cause of neonatal death after infections and Preterm births in developing countries, accounts for an estimated 23% of the annual 4 million neonatal deaths. The nurses require a high level of knowledge in managing birth asphyxia that occurs in newborn and assessment skills to practice it in NICU and labour ward to prevent further complications in the newborn. This will enable quality care which increase likelihood of newborns survival and promote optimal quality care.

Objective: To assess knowledge, attitude and practice of nurses working in NICU and labour ward toward management of birth asphyxia in governmental hospitals Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Methodology: Institutional based Cross-sectional study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of staff nurses working in NICU and labour ward toward management of birth asphyxia at governmental hospital in Addis Ababa from February-March, 2017. Systematic random sampling technique was utilized to select study subjects and to determine sample size a single proportion formula was used. According to this formula the sample size of the study was 168. Pretest was done and data entered into Epi-info version (3.5.1) statistical software package then exported to SPSS software package version 21 for further analysis. Result

was presented by text, table, pie chart and histogram.

Result: Of the total 163, 108 (66.3%) of the respondents have knowledge of birth asphyxia management. Nurses and midwives who got training were 2.6 times {AOR=2.6; 95% CI (1.02- 6.63)} more likely to have knowledge of birth asphyxia compared to those didn't get training. In relation to practice profession was significantly associated with practice for birth asphyxia management, nurses were 4.7 times {(AOR=4.71; CI (1.306, 16.988)} more likely to practice compared to those midwives.

Conclusion and Recommendation: The study revealed about sixty six percent of nurses and midwives have knowledge of birth asphyxia management. More than half of them have good practice and positive attitude towards the management of birth asphyxia. Training should be considered to increase knowledge of nurses and midwives on management of birth asphyxia.

Biography

Ayantu Fekede has been working at Tikur Anbessa Specialized Hospital for over 10 years. During her MSc studies at Addis Ababa University, the findings of her thesis revealed that individuals with training are significantly more knowledgeable than those without. She is committed to providing training to enhance their knowledge. This opportunity will enable Ayantu to further expand her expertise in neonatal management, particularly in addressing birth asphyxia.