

ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND UTILIZATION OF SAFETY MEASURES AMONG WORKERS ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH HAZARDS

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Occupational Health Nursing is a major aspect of community health Nursing, hence it was seen that there were scant nursing research studies done on industrial health in India, hence this study to assess the knowledge on contact dermatitis and utilization of safety measures was undertaken by the investigator.

The objectives of the study were

- To identify knowledge of workers on occupational contact dermatitis
- To identify utilization of safety measures
- To correlate knowledge and utilization
- To associate knowledge with selected demographic variables
- To associate utilization with selected demographic variables

The overall mean knowledge of worker was 49.02% with a Standard Deviation of 1.64 which shows inadequate knowledge of Contact Dermatitis among workers (<50% inadequate knowledge). The overall mean utilization of safety awareness was 65.44 with a Standard Deviation of 1.88, which showed moderately adequate utilization of safety measures among workers (50-75% - moderately adequate utilization of safety measures)

The correlation co-efficient value of knowledge with utilization was $r = 0.1881$ which showed positive correlation between knowledge and utilization, which signifies that as knowledge increases their utility regarding safety measures also increases. The Chi-Square association revealed that there was no significant association of knowledge and utilization of safety measures with that of selected demographic variables.

Based on the above findings the implications drawn were:

Nursing service administrators should formulate policies regarding specific job description to occupational health nurses so as to render services, which are curative but also preventive, promotive and rehabilitative in nature.

The nursing service administrators should be empowered regarding the policies in relation to health Nursing.

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