

## **Knowledge and associated factors on prevention of deep vein thrombosis among the nurses working at Teaching Hospital Jaffna**

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**Introduction and Objectives:** Deep vein thrombosis [DVT] is a blood clot that forms in deep veins of the body, usually in the lower extremities. It is a common problem affecting the patients and may cause potentially life-threatening complications. There is a need to increase the knowledge of nurses on DVT prevention to avoid complications. The study was designed to assess the knowledge on the prevention of deep vein thrombosis and associated factors among the nurses working at Teaching Hospital Jaffna.

**Methods:** An institutional-based descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among the nursing officers working at Teaching Hospital Jaffna from September 2020 to November 2021. The target group of this study was 596 staff nurses working in Teaching Hospital Jaffna. Among them, 490 nurses had given their consent for participation. A self-administered questionnaire was given to potential study participants. In that, 382 nurses filled out the questionnaire and returned. The response rate was reported as 77.95% in this study. After the ethical approval, the pre-designed and validated questionnaire was used for assessment. SPSS 16.0 was used to analyse the data, and a Chi-Squared test was performed to identify the influencing factors.

**Results:** Among the 382 study participants, mean age was 32.12 ( $\pm 7.17$ ), nearly half (47.4%) were in 31-40 years of age. More than two third of the study participants (72.5%) were female. Based on the findings, 62% of the study participants had good knowledge on DVT prevention. Mean score of knowledge on DVT prevention among the participants was 20.03 (SD=2.56) with the range from 12 to 24. Educational level of the nurses ( $p < 0.001$ ), educational resources ( $p = 0.027$ ), working experience as a nurse ( $p = 0.016$ ), working unit in last 6 months ( $p = 0.001$ ) have shown statistically significant association with knowledge of the participants.

**Conclusion:** More than half of the participants had good knowledge and it is recommended to have continuous in-service trainings to improve the knowledge on DVT prevention.

**Keywords:** Deep vein thrombosis, Nurses, Knowledge, Teaching Hospital Jaffna