

THE KNOWLEDGE ON ADULT ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT AND THE INFLUENCING FACTORS AMONG THE NURSING OFFICERS WORKING IN TEACHING HOSPITAL JAFFNA

Poorvajan, V1, Arulmoli, J2, Kamalarupan, L3 and Jegapragash, V.4

¹Research Assistant (Clinical Field Investigator), Institute for Health Policy, Colombo, Sri Lanka,

²MBBS, MD (Anaesthesiology), Consultant Anaesthetist, Teaching Hospital Jaffna; Provincial Coordinator for Resuscitation Committee, College of Anaesthesiologists & Intensivists of Sri Lanka,

³Department of Nursing, Unit of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna,

⁴Department of Nursing, Unit of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna.

Advanced Life Support (ALS) given at the right time with accurate knowledge and skills is essential for improving mortality in Cardiac Arrest; by this means, nursing professionals must be well practiced, competent and confident to deal with medical emergencies. Therefore, this study aimed to assess the knowledge level and the influencing factors on adult ALS among the Nursing Officers working in Teaching Hospital Jaffna. Hospital based descriptive cross-sectional study was carried out, among all the staff nurses (490) working in Teaching Hospital Jaffna, during one month data collection period. Data was collected by a self-administered questionnaire. Data were processed in SPSS version 23. Chi squared statistical test and Fisher's exact test (2 tailed) were performed to identify the influencing factors. In this study; majority of the participants were female (76.1%) and most of them were diploma holders (81.3%). More than two-third of the nurses had not received formal in-service training on ALS at all. Overall, only 17.7% nurses had Good knowledge, approximately half of the nurses (51.2%) had Average knowledge and the knowledge score was inadequate among 31.0% of the total study population (n=326). This study also demonstrated the statistical significant relationship of several socio-demographic and educational factors related to the knowledge on ALS. This study illustrated that; although majority of the nurses had average knowledge level or more, knowledge inadequacy was there among significant amount of the study population. Knowledge deficit should be addressed properly to improve the outcome of the patient.

Keywords: *Advanced Life Support, Knowledge, Factors, Nurses, Teaching Hospital Jaffna*