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The effect of educational interventional program on nurses' knowledge acquisition and retention concerning sedation and analgesics titration among Jordanian nurses working in intensive care units

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Patients admitted to the intensive care unit (ICUs) need more than sedative and analgesic drugs to enable them to tolerate the invasive procedures, ICU staff nurse has a major role to assess patient under/oversedation and achieve the aims of sedation and analgesics. Patients inside the ICUs have the right to achieve adequate sedation given and prevent overdoses of sedation/analgesics that may cause further potential complication. The aim of this study to examine the effectiveness of the educational interventional program in improvement and increase ICU nurses' knowledge concerning sedation and analgesic titration in the ICUs. In this study, the quasi-

experimental design with a pre- and post-test repeated measures approach was employed. A pre-test was carried out as a base-line of level of knowledge of ICU nurses (registered nurses having more than one-year experience) immediately before the initiation of the intervention, and the post-test was conducted after one week and three months period of the initiation of the educational intervention program to investigate the knowledge level difference among the targeted nurses in ICUs. The setting of this study was being in an adult ICU at King Hussein Hospital– Royal Medical Services, Amman- Jordan. The sample size was calculated using the G-power software. Data were analyzed using SPSS version 23. Descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentage, means and the standard deviation were used to analyze the sample demographic characteristics and knowledge level. Univariate analysis (independent t-test and one-way analysis of variance) was used to assess the effect of demographic characteristics on knowledge scores. The effect of the intervention on knowledge scores was examined using repeated-measures analysis

of variance. In addition, linear regression analysis was utilized to identify the significant predictors of nurses' knowledge regarding the titration of the sedations in ICUs. The mean of the total knowledge scores of the sample at pre-intervention phase was 93.02 (SD= 1.72, range=29 (80-109)), acquisition phase was 114.14 (SD= 4.08, range=18 (103-121)), and retention phase was 111.32 (SD= 4.08, range=21 (101-122)). There was a significant difference between all three phases. The results indicated to significant improvement of knowledge scores in both post-test, acquisition and retention phases, with Wilk's Lambda Partial Eta Squared (0.933, 0.901) indicated large effect size. The most significant predictors of Jordanian nurses' knowledge scores that were significantly predicted the total knowledge score and these variables explained 29.4% of the variance in nurses' knowledge concerning sedation and analgesics titration in ICUs. No statistically significant differences were found in age, gender, marital status, incomes, experience inside ICU, and experience in nursing variables

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in all three phases' level scores. Low level of knowledge shed light on the obstacles that hamper the Jordanian nurses' knowledge concerning sedation and analgesics titration in ICUs settings. It could be attributed to various factors that may include inadequacy of highlighting nursing sedative management topics through the graduate curriculum, the lack of exposure to special training courses and sessions concerning sedation and

analgesics titration in ICUs, and lack of well-structured continuing education programs. This low level of knowledge concerning sedation and analgesics negatively impact ICUs patients' quality of care and subsequently leads to increase mortality incidence and prolonged patients' recovery, increases patients' length of stay, consequently increases the burden of health care costs, and patients' re-admissions rates.

Biography

Issa M. Hweidi is a doctoral degree holder, has rich experience as a clinical nurse educator in the field of Medical-Surgical Nursing. He is an academican in the field of Adult Health Nursing teaching both theory and clinical (undergraduate & graduate) courses, actively participating in professional activities, published 12 research studies in referred, indexed, and international journals, involving in various leadership and managerial tasks in the nursing profession. Currently, he is a tenured Associate Professor of adult health nursing at Jordan University of Science and Technology.

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