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## A systematic review of evidence regarding the knowledge of Critical Care Nurses for preventing ventilator associated pneumonia in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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**Background:** Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) persists as one of the greatest Intensive Care Unit (ICU) acquired infections. VAP is described as a lung infection that develops following a minimum of 48 hours post-intubation in critically unwell patients who are receiving mechanical ventilation. VAP is usually associated with major morbidity, mortality and health care facility costs, which are estimated to be about 40,000 US Dollars per case. The incidence of VAP were approximately 15.5% internationally, 19.3% in Europe, 16.1% in Asia, 13.7% in Latin America and 13.4% in USA. Indeed, the VAP mortality rates have been reported by several countries, ranging approximately from 23% to 75%.

**Objective:** The aim of this study is to review the evidence regarding critical care nurses' knowledge of evidence-based guidelines for the Prevention of VAP in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

**Methods:** Data were reviewed regarding this the topic by using a number of online databases. The findings were narrowed again by reading the abstract of each study to ensure that their content reflected their titles and related to this matter. Hawker's Assessment Tool was applied to critically appraise the studies.

**Conclusions:** Many studies shows that knowledge of critical care nurses of evidence based guideline for preventing VAP is low in many countries. Knowledge also was found to be varies according to experience of the nurses and the size of the ICU. It is crucial to ensure that critical care nurses obtain continuous education programme and are included in updating guidelines.

**Key words:** Nurses knowledge, Critical Care, Evidence-based guidelines, Prevention, VAP, evidence-based guidelines.

### Biography

Husain has completed his Bachelor Science of Nursing at the age of 33 years from Sydney University of Technology. He is infection control nurse in General Directorate of Health Affairs of Riyadh Region in KSA. He is now studying Master of nursing Education in Salford University Manchester.

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