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**Effectiveness of nursing psychoeducational program on knowledge about schizophrenia, psychiatric symptoms, insight into illness and internalized stigma for patients with schizophrenia in Jordan**Majdi Alhadidi<sup>1</sup>, Khatijah Lim Abdullah<sup>1</sup>, Lourance Al Hadid<sup>2</sup> and Tang Yoong<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup>University of Malaya, Malaysia<sup>2</sup>Al Hussein Bin Talal University, Jordan

**Background:** Schizophrenia is one of the most complicated psychiatric disorders, which have a chronic phase, as many patients do not promote from only psychotropic medications. Psychoeducation is one of the most recognized cognitive and behavioral therapies in specific to schizophrenia. In Jordan, the majority of patients with schizophrenia are treated by psychotropic medications as Treatment as Usual (TAU), only 1-20% received any psychosocial interventions in addition to their TAU. Moreover, the lack of knowledge about the effectiveness of psychoeducation intervention makes it even more difficult to provide mental health care to patients with schizophrenia in Jordan. Further knowledge about the impact of this type of intervention on patients with schizophrenia is required.

**Aim:** The general objective of this study is to investigate the effectiveness of psychoeducation program on the knowledge about schizophrenia, psychiatric symptoms, insight into illness and internalized stigma for patients with schizophrenia in Jordan.

**Method:** This study was used a quasi-experimental-longitudinal method with nonequivalent control group pretest-posttest. Participants (n=122) were assigned to an interventional psychoeducational group (n=66) or a control group (n=56). The participants in the control group were received their (TAU), while those in the interventional group participated in a psychoeducational program, in addition to their (TAU). The two groups were compared at baseline and post-intervention (1 week and 3 and 6-month follow-up) on measures of knowledge about schizophrenia, psychiatric symptoms, insight into illness and internalized stigma. This study was conducted in the biggest psychiatric hospital in Jordan.

**Results & Conclusion:** The interventional psychoeducational group experienced greater improvement in the study outcome measures than the control group. Thus, these findings have important implications for future research, policy and mental health nursing practice in Jordan.

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