Knowledge of nurses about abortion in the women's hospital and obstetrics in the holy city of Karbala and General AL - HindiaHospital

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Abstract: Abortion is emptying the uterus from the embryo, which occurs without the intervention of medical or mechanical means. And uses another term on the broader abortion scope is the termination of pregnancy, either spontaneously or unintentionally 20 weeks or the weight less than 500 grams before the birth or death of the fetus, the reasons vary according to the laws of the state and the report of abortion, fetal death and infant mortality newborns.

Objective: Knowledge of nurses towards abortion evaluates and determines the relationship between knowledge of nurses towards abortion and demographic characteristics.

Methodology: descriptive study was conducted in the women's hospital and maternity public education and a hospital of AL-Hindia city in the holy city of Karbala from 15/02/2016 to 15/10/2016 to achieve objectives of the study were selected sample is the possibility (object-) consisted of (70) nurses working in a hospital Obstetrics and Gynecology educational year and AL-Hindiahospital. The study tool consists of two parts, the first part demographic information. The second part Knowledge nurses assess and includes three sections First Section: Knowledge nurses toward abortion, Section II: Knowledge about the causes of abortion, Section III: knowledge about preventive measures.

Results: Results of the study showed that (45) nurses, was down (64.3%) were in the age group (24-30 years), and (45) nurses, by (64.3%) junior nursing graduates, and 38 nurses, by (54.3%) were married, (1-3) was the years of experience (20) nurses, was down (28.5%), and (41) nurses, by (58.5%) did not participate in the training sessions. The results showed that there was anon significant difference in the level of (P <0.05) and that most of the nurses have an average knowledge of the direction of abortion, there is no significant correlation between the knowledge of nurses and level of education, age and marital status with the exception of years of experience.

Conclusions: The study found that the nurses had an average level of knowledge about abortion and there is no significant correlation between age and level of education, social status and their knowledge of the nurse in the exception of years of experience.

Recommendations: The study recommends the following: activating the role of training and development to improve knowledge and attitudes of nurses, health awareness trend pregnancy, the distribution of brochures, pamphlets for nurses, guidance on obstetrics and midwifery.

Keywords : abortion, nurse's knowledge, Hospitals and Karbala.

Introduction:-

Abortion is an expulsion from the uterus an embryo or fetus prior to the stage of viability (20 weeks' gestation or fetal weight <500g)[1].the ending of pregnancy by removing a fetus or embryo from the women before it

can survive on its own an abortion which occurs spontaneously is also known as a miscarriage .an abortion may be caused purposely and is then called an induced abortion ,or less frequently ,(induced miscarriage [2].The most common cause of spontaneous abortion during the first trimester is chromosomal abnormalities of the embryo or fetus[3].Other causes include vascular disease (such as lupus), diabetes, other hormonal problems, infection, and abnormalities of the uterus[4].

According to WHO, approximately 68,000 women die annually as a result of complications of unsafe abortion; and between two million and seven million women each year survive unsafe abortion but sustain long-term damage or disease (incomplete abortion, infection (sepsis), hemorrhage, and injury to the internal organs, such as puncturing or tearing of the uterus[5].WHO defined unsafe abortion as a procedure to terminate an unintended pregnancy that is performed by an individual who lacks adequate skills or that occurs in condition that do not meet basic medical standards[6].Mortality and morbidity depend on gestational age at the time of miscarriage or abortion. In the United States, mortality rates per 100,000 abortions are as follows: fewer than 8 weeks, 0.5%; 11-12 weeks, 2.2%; 16-20 weeks, 14%; and more than 21 weeks, 18 %[7]. Used with the backup of legal abortion, barrier methods of contraception such as the condom, diaphragm and cervical cap, are the safest by far of all reversible contraceptives. They do not cause any delay in or risk to fertility and they help protect against sexually transmitted diseases and cervical cancer, intrauterine devices IUD (2).

Nurse and midwifery must be known dangers of abortion because of increase numbers death cases of severe adverse events, including hemorrhaging, blood loss requiring transfusions, serious infection, and death [8].The role of nursing is to improve the quality of life of clients, well, sick, or dying. Awareness in the individual to care for self; Therefore, nurse's knowledge on positive self-care practices may reduce incidence of abortions [9]. Midwifery practice should ensure that women should be empowered with knowledge on self-care practice to prevent occurrence of abortions; to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality by the year 2015.

Methodology:-

A descriptive design was carried out the present study on knowledge of nurse about abortion. The study was conducted at Women's and Gynecologists teaching hospitals and Al- Hindia general hospital in Karbala City from 15/2/2016 to 15 /10/2016 to achieve the objectives of the study, a non-probability (purposive) sample of(70) nurses selected from hospitals. The study instrument consist of (2) parts.

Part I Socio-demographical characteristics include Age, educational level, marital status , number of service years, Sharing in courses that concern with gynecological and obstetrical field.

Part II Assessment for ' Knowledge This part was presented in three sections:-

Section 1: Nurses' Knowledge toward Abortion This section consisted of(14)items regarding general knowledge of nurse toward abortion ,These items were rated and scored as to two levels of Likert's scale as: Know (2) and don't know (1).

Section 2: Knowledge toward causes of abortion this section consisted of 17 items regarding knowledge toward causes abortion. These items were rated and scored as to two levels of Likert's scale as: Know (2) and don't know (1).

Section 3: Knowledge toward preventive measures this section consisted of 8 items regarding knowledge toward preventivemeasures . These items were rated and scored as to two levels of Likert's scale as: Know (2) and don't know (1).The data were collected through the use of constructed questionnaire, through an application of direct interview as a mean of data collection.

The data collection process was performed from15th February 2016 to …15th October…2016.

Data analysis : The data were analyses through application of the SPSS program and used both the descriptive and inferential statistical approaches.

Result:-

Table (1): Distribution of the nurses by their demographic characteristics

No.	Variables	Characteristics	F	%
1-	Age (year)	20-30	45	64.3
		31-40	13	18.5
		41-50	12	17.2
		Total	70	100.0
2-	Level of education	Nursing secondary School	45	64.3
		Institute Graduate	17	24.3
		College of Nursing	8	11.4
		Total	**70**	**100.0**
3-	**Marital Status**	Single	20	28.6
		Married	38	54.3
		Separated	4	5.7
		Widow	3	4.3
		Divorced	5	7.1
		Total	**70**	**100.0**
4-	**Years of Experien**	1-3	20	28.5
		4-6	14	20
		7-9	13	18.5
		10-12	15	21.5
		13 and more	8	11.5
		Total	**70**	**100.0**
5-	**Training sessions**	No	41	58.5
		Yes	29	41.5
		Total	70	100.0

No. = number of Variable, n = number of sample, F=frequencies, % = Percentages .

The results of this table show that the majority of age group to the study sample was within (20-30 year) (64.3%). Also in regarding to the subjects level of education, the results show that, Three fourths of them has nursing secondary school (64.3%) In regarding to the subjects marital status, the majority of the study sample were married (54.3%). In addition, majority of them has (1-3) years of experience were (28.5%). Finally, in the above table the results show that Sharing in training session concerning abortion the major of the study sample was not share in training courses (58.5%).

Table (2): Assessment of Nurses' Knowledge Toward Abortion of the sample study

No	Items	I Know		I don't Know		M.S.	Ass.
		F	%	F	%		
1	Abortion occur before 20 weeks of gestation	45	64.3	25	35.7	1.63	**M**
2	Abortion divided(spontaneous and induced)	60	85.7	10	14.3	1.85	**H**
3	Incomplete and septic abortion more dangerous	48	68.5	22	31.5	1.66	**M**
4	Working in anesthesia field may be causes abortion.	22	31.4	58	82.8	1.27	**L**
5	Smoking causes abortion	45	64.3	25	35.7	1.62	**M**
6	Increase consuming drinking green tea causes abortion	20	28.6	50	71.4	1.31	**L**
7	Increase consuming of Pineapple causes abortion	9	12.9	61	87.1	1.11	**L**
8	Induced abortion causes breast and cervical cancer	21	30	49	70	1.33	**L**
9	Septic abortion should be isolated	22	31.5	48	68.5	1.32	**L**
10	Mortality pregnant women because abortion reach above 40 million annually	26	37.1	44	62.9	1.33	**L**
11	Recurrent abortion causes infertility	30	42.9	40	57.1	1.49	**M**
12	Recurrent abortion causes obstruction in fallopian tubes	21	30	49	70	1.33	**L**

| 13 | Recurrent abortion causes ectopic pregnancy | 20 | 28.6 | 50 | 71.4 | 1.32 | L |
| 14 | Miscarriages the same meaning of abortion | 20 | 28.5 | 50 | 71.4 | 1.27 | L |

No. = number of item , F=frequencies , % = Percentages, M.S.= mean of score. Ass.= assessment, Cut-off-point interval : 1-1.33= Low; 1.34-1.67 = Moderate; 1,68-2 -= High

The finding of this table reveals that there are low mean of scores in total of all items nurses' knowledge toward abortion of the sample study.

Table (3): Assessment of Nurses' Knowledge toward causes of abortion

No	Items	I Know		I don't Know		M.S.	Ass.
		F	%	F	%		
1	Congenital anomalies in fetus causes abortion	47	67.1	23	32.9	1.65	M
2	Bacterial infections of the vagina causes abortion	61	87.1	9	12.9	1.89	H
3	Congenital malformations of the uterus cause abortion	47	67.1	23	32.9	1.65	M
4	Toxoplasmosis (cats) disease causes abortion	48	68.5	22	31.5	1.66	M
5	Hypertension one of the causes abortion	63	90	7	10	1.85	H
6	Urinary tract infection causes abortion	42	60.0	28	40.0	1.60	M
7	cervical incompetence cause abortion	40	57.1	30	42.9	1.56	M
8	Women aged over 35 more susceptible to abortion	47	67.1	23	32.9	1.65	M
9	Folic acid deficiency causes abortion	25	35.7	45	64.3	1.63	M
10	Lupus causes abortion for pregnant women	25	35.7	45	64.3	1.38	M
11	Gestational diabetes causes abortion	57	81.4	13	18.6	1.77	H
12	Ovarian cyst cause abortion	47	67.1	23	32.9	1.65	M
16	Malnutrition cause abortion	25	35.7	45	64.3	1.63	M
17	Heavy lifting caused abortion	20	28.6	50	71.4	1.31	L

No. = number of item , F=frequencies , % = Percentages, M.S.= mean of score. Ass.= assessment, Cut-off-point interval : 1-1.33= Low; 1.34-1.67 = Moderate; 1,68-2 -= High

The finding of this table reveals that there are moderate mean of scores in total of all items nurses' knowledge toward causes of abortion

Table (4): Assessment of Nurses' Knowledge toward preventive Measures.

No	Items	I Know		I don't Know		M.S.	Ass.
1	Folic acid intake two weeks from the last menstrual period to last month before pregnancy to protect against the incidence of abortion	21	30	49	70	1.33	L
2	Avoid canned tuna fish intake during pregnancy reduces the incidence of abortion	25	35.7	45	64.3	1.38	M
3	Eat more vegetables because they contain folic acid and fiber protects against abortion	47	67.1	23	32.9	1.65	M
4	Reduce intake of sweets which they contain fats that cause obesity	55	78.6	15	21.4	1.75	H
5	Lose weight before pregnancy reduces the incidence of abortion	20	28.6	50	71.4	1.31	L
6	Walking for 30 minutes does not cause abortion	44	62.9	26	37.1	1.61	M
7	Avoid nervous tension and mental disorders protects against abortion	47	67.1	23	32.9	1.65	M
8	Stay away from the paint or paint and furniture polish because it contains a high percentage of lead, which causes abortion	28	40	42	60	1.41	M

No. = number of item , F=frequencies , % = Percentages, M.S.= mean of score. Ass.= assessment, Cut-off-point interval : 1-1.33= Low; 1.34-1.67 = Moderate; 1,68-2 -= High

The finding of this table reveals that there are moderate mean of scores in total of all items nurses' knowledge toward preventive Measures.

Table (5): Distribution of the participants' level of knowledge through the Mean score of questions related to Nurses knowledge

Level of Nursing intervention	Frequency	Percent
Low	30	42.9
Moderate	36	51.4
High	4	5.7
Total	70	100.0

Cut-off-point interval : 1-1.67 = Low; 1.68-2.33 = Moderate; 2.34-3.00 = High

This table reveals that the majority of participants have moderate level of nurses' knowledge toward abortion of the sample study (n=70; 51.4%).

Table (6): Association between the Nurses' Knowledge and their ages

Age (year)		Nurses' Knowledge			Total
		Low	Moderate	High	
20-30	F	4	8	33	45
	%	5.7%	11.4%	63.8%	64.3%
31-40	F	2	4	7	13
	%	2.9%	5.7%	10%	18.6%
41-50	F	1	1	10	12
	%	1.4%	1.4%	14.3%	17.1%
Total	F	7	13	50	70
	%	10%	18.6%	71.4%	100.0%
χ^2obs.= 7.496 value=0.678		χ^2crit. =18.31		df=10	P< 0.05

χ^2obs. = chi-square observed, χ^2crit = chi-square critical , df= degree of freedom, p = probability value, P< 0.05= significant,

Table (6) indicates that there was no a significant relationship between nurses' knowledge toward abortion of the sample study and their age at (P< 0.05), when analyzed by chi-square test.

Table (7): Association between the Nurses' Knowledge and their Marital Status

Marital Status		Nurses' Knowledge			Total
		Low	Moderate	High	
Single	F	1	1	18	20
	%	1.4%	1.4%	25.7%	28.6%
Married	F	1	4	33	38
	%	1.4%	5.7%	47.1%	54.3%
Separated	F	0	4	0	4
	%	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%	5.7%
Widow	F	0	0	3	3
	%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	4.3%
Divorced	F	0	0	5	5
	%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	7.1%
Total	F	2	9	59	70
	%	2.8%	12.8%	84.6%	100.0%
χ^2obs.= 11.116		χ^2crit. =15.51		df=8	p-value=0.

χ^2obs. = chi-square observed, χ^2crit = chi-square critical , df= degree of freedom, p = probability value, P > 0.05= non-significant

The data analysis presented in table (7) shows that there was no a significant relationship between nurses' knowledge toward abortion of the sample study and Marital Status at (P < 0.05) when analyzed by chi-square test.

Table (8) : Association between the Nurses' Knowledge and their educational level

Level of educational		Nurses' Knowledge			Total
		Low	Moderate	High	
Secondary School Nursing Graduate	F	2	6	37	45
	%	2.9%	8.6%	52.6%	64.3%
Institute Graduate	F	1	2	14	17
	%	1.4%	2.6%	20%	24.3%
College of nursing	F	1	0	7	8
	%	1.4%	0.0%	10%	11.4%
Total	F	4	8	58	70
	%	5.8%	11.5%	82.7%	100.0%
χ^2obs.= 5.519 value=0.238	χ^2crit. =9.49		df=4		P< 0.05

χ^2**obs. = chi-square observed, χ^2crit = chi-square critical , df= degree of freedom, p = probability value, P > 0.05= non-significant**

The findings in table (8) revealed that there was no a significant relationship between nurses' knowledge toward abortion of the sample study and their educational level at (P< 0.05), when analyzed by chi-square test.

Table (9): Association between the Nurses' Knowledge and their Years of Experience

Years of Experience		Nurses' Knowledge			Total
		Low	Moderate	High	
1-3	F	1	1	18	20
	%	1.4%	1.4%	25.7%	28,6%
4-6	F	1	4	9	14
	%	1.4%	5.7%	12.9%	20%
7-9	F	0	1	12	13
	%	0.0%	1.4%	17.1%	18.6%
10-12	F	1	6	8	15
	%	1.4%	8.6%	10.0%	21.4%
13 and more	F	0	0	8	8
	%	0.0%	0.0%	11.4%	11.4%
Total	F	3	12	55	70
	%	4.3%	17.1%	78.6%	100.0%
χ^2obs.= 15.610	χ^2crit. =15.51	df=8	P< 0.05	p value=0.042	

χ^2**obs. = chi-square observed, χ^2crit = chi-square critical , df= degree of freedom, p = probability value, P< 0.05= significant,**

The table (9) indicates that there was a significant relationship between nurses' knowledge toward abortion of the sample study and their years of experience at (P< 0.05), when analyzed by chi-square test.

Discussion

Throughout the data analysis, the finding of the study sample indicated that nearly half of the nurses (64.3%)were within (20-30 year) This result reveals a fact that this age group of nurses worked in hospitals at Karbala City to helped her families to achieve house needs and tasks. This finding was supported by Matsheza[10] and Morroniet al[11]A Study to assessment knowledge toward abortion In Zimbabwe were the average age of their study sample was half of them in the age group 21- 25 years.

In regard to the subjects, level of education, the study finding shows that the majority of them low level of education, 45(64.3%) had Nursing secondary School while college graduates constituted only 8 (11.4%) and. This finding was supported by [12]shows that fifty-two (66.7%) had attained secondary education, while College of Nursing six [7, 7%] had attained tertiary education.

In regard to the subjects, marital status, more than a half were married 38 (54.3%) single were 20(28.6%). Among nurses it is, Widow 3(4.3%). This finding was supported by (10) shows that the marital Status Single 28(35.9%) Married 46(59.0%) Divorced/ Separated 3 (3.8%) Widowed 1 (1.3%).In regard to the subjects, experience years majority of them has (1-3) years of experience were (28.5%).. This study support by [12].shows that Expertise in nursing is influenced by relevant experience as well as associated factors, such as learning styles and educational opportunities, all over a period of time.   In regard to the subjects, Training sessions the results show that Sharing in training session concerning abortion the major of the study sample was not share in training courses (58.5%).This study supported by [13]shows that, medical schools in Malaysia and other developing countries do not offer sufficient training to students with the knowledge and skills necessary to counsel patients about abortion and to become abortion providers.

Assessment of Nurse's Knowledge toward Abortion

The study showed that the majority of nurses had low level of knowledge toward abortion 30(42.9%), of the sample study. This study disagree with [14]and [11]shows that most of the nurse knew that abortion is legal about (31%) (50%).The study showed table (3)that the majority of nurses had moderate level of knowledge toward causes of abortion 36(51.4%), of the sample study. This study supported by [10, 14]shows that mostnurse knew that causes of abortion is Hypertension and Bacterial infections of the vagina and same self-medication are causes of abortion (31%) (50%). regarding to Nurses' Knowledge toward preventive Measures shows that moderate level this study agree with [10, 14]how sea Knowledge on self-care practice is essential in reducing occurrence of abortion.

Discussion Association between the Nurses' Knowledge and their age, Marital Status and educational level

The study showed that the socio-demographic characteristics variables (age ,level of education, marital status) had no significant association with their (knowledge) assessment at($P < 0.05$), except the (Years of Experience) which recorded a significant association at $P > 0.05$. The finding of this study agreed with that of the study done by[15]which showed no statistically significant association between women's knowledge and socio-demographic characteristics except the Years of Experience at ($p < 0.05$).

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