



COMPETITIONS OF MEDICAL NURSES IN CONTROL AND PROPHYLACTIC OF INSIDE-HOSPITAL INFECTIONS

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ABSTRACT

PURPOSE: To review the necessity of preparation of medical nurses to having competitions about the activities in control and prophylaxis of inside-hospital infections.

METHODS:

- Interview conducted on 07.09.07 in specialty "Medical Nurse" in MU – Varna (35) and practicing medical nurses in "Saint Marina University Hospital" and "Saint Anna Hospital" – Varna (45)
- Documentary methods - normative acts and official educational documentation of the university department "Healthcare" (studying plans and programs for education of medical nurses)

RESULTS: In contemporary circumstances, the inside-hospital infections represent underlying problem. As a part of the medical team, the nurse has a key role in organization, control and realization of complex procedures, as sanitary-hygiene and epidemic control management against the in-hospital infections.

Key words: IHI, nurse, education, competences

The inside-hospital infections represent general public health and economical problem on global scale. They increase the generally expected hospitalization time, and also increase mortality and shorten the longevity amidst patients.

The in-hospital infections pursue medical activities even when strict application of all actions of supervision is present.

The factors, which contribute to the emerging and spreading of inside-hospital infections, can be very diverse:

- The growth in numbers of the invasive methods for diagnostics and treatment of the contemporary medicine.
- Incorrect antibiotic use, leading to selection of poly-resistant microorganisms and their diffusion.

- Low immunological protection of patients in hospital.
- Limited material resources and insufficient qualification of the personnel in the hospital.

As a part of the medical team, the nurse has a key role in organization, control and realization of complex procedures, as sanitary-hygiene and epidemic control management against the in-hospital infections. Good conduct and correct actions of the nurse depend on her or his knowledge and practice-based habits acquired after completing basic and after-diploma studies. Improvement in tuition among health professionals can be achieved by integrating internationally acknowledged norms and requirements, about the possibility for lessening the frequent spread of infections, and also to insure higher property of the health care. In order to plan and achieve the required precautions, the nurse has to possess skills and habits contributing the correct judgment and awareness for the risk of potential inside

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hospital infection spreading.

The application of diagnostic treatment and the general health of a patient, have significant influence for the level of the risk of spreading of infections.

Having in mind the modern concept for the methodology of the medical control, a nurse should be able to recognize and apply the stages of its research, noted below:

- Register and gathering of information from existing cases of inside-hospital infections and the factors, affecting their appearance.
- Analysis, based on gathered information.
- Measures needed for judging, planning and interpreting of the medical information

Familiarizing with the basic documents, during the tuition process, which are:

Hospital Rules of Conduct, Rules of organizational prophylactics and control of the inside-hospital infections, regulation No2/10.02.2005 of the Health Department, make students feel ready to take responsibilities and correct definition of their actions in order to prevent inside-hospital infections.

Knowing the basic steps of the epidemic research, the nurse has the possibility to analyze and plan the actions needed for prevention of inside-hospital infections. Positive views and wiliness for knowing the reasons and possibilities of inside-hospital infections prevention, can be seen on both interviewed as statistics below shows.

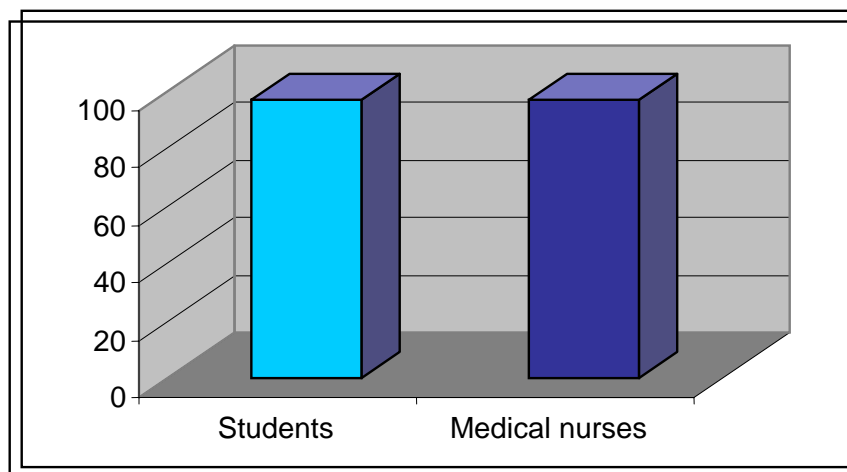


Fig 1. Readiness for study of inside-hospital infections

On the question “Why it is sufficient to research the epidemic outbreaks?” 45% of the interviewed students forth year point out the preventing of potential spreading of infection, as answer; 37% are concerned

about the preventing consecutive outbreaks, while practicing nurses point out the preservation of the general public trust in the health system (57%)

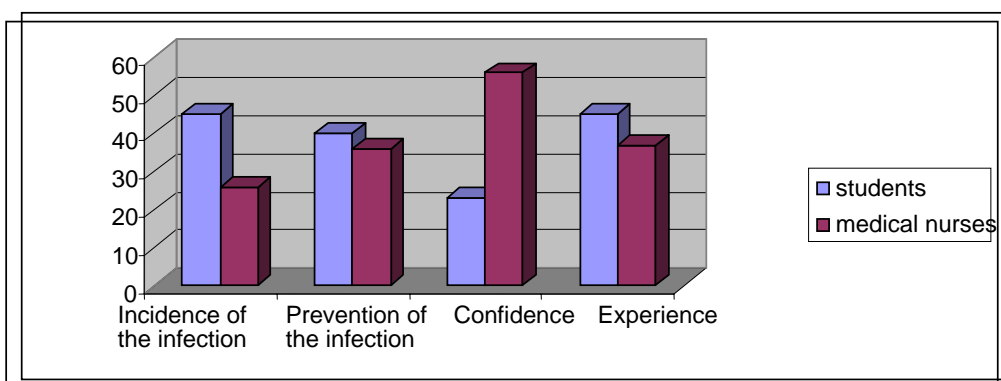


Fig.2. Why is necessity to study the epidemic explosion?

The studying of inside-hospital infections gives the nurse (depending on her professional competence) the possibility of formalize and define the goals, needed to achieve quality healthcare on the basis of gathered information and thorough analysis of the epidemiological situation. The collected theoretical knowledge and developed skills through practice, contribute the possibility of giving the answers to the questions: "How did it happen?" "Who was involved?" "When and where the infection appeared for the first time?" "What exactly has to be done?". The gathered information along with full analysis of the situation gives valuable experience and possibility to learn

more about diseases in general.

Very interesting results came out from interviewed as answers concerning inside-hospital infections prevention. Practicing nurses point out as most important measures the safe use of sharp objects (47%), use of protective clothing and latex gloves (73%). Students on the other hand, are far more thorough in their answers. They point out as standard safety measures the mandatory minimum in servicing patients (84%), and as additional isolative and barrier measures, they point out the actions needed to cut down the ways of spreading infections e.g. aero gene, aerosol droplets containing virus particles, or by direct contact (76%).

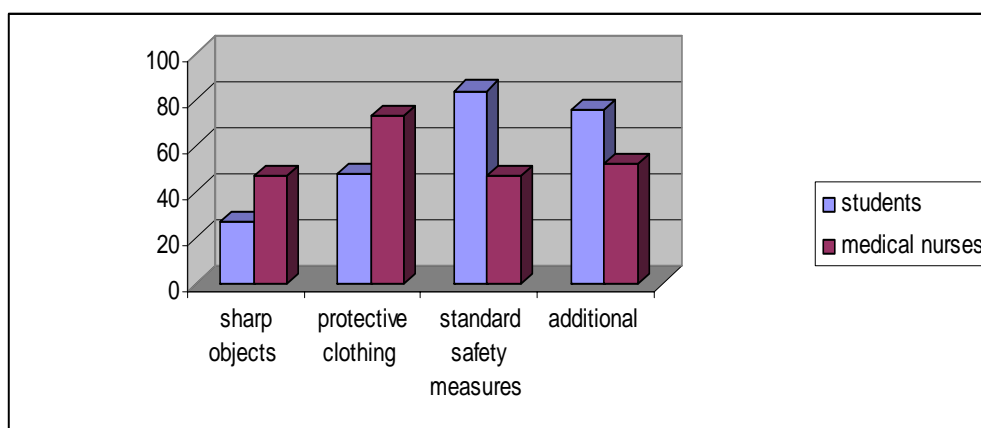


Fig.3. *The measure for prevention of the infections?*

Students are more convincing, due to the fact that they had been studying the new philosophy of nursery, along with information about new medical standards for prevention and control of inside-hospital infections, timely granted by their university tutors.

In conclusion:

- 1) Research of inside-hospital infections decreases their frequent emerging and also secures the high quality of healthcare.
- 2) Studying inside-hospital infections – the best way of prevention.
- 3) It is everyone's responsibility to help preventing infections by hard work.

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