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Clinical Pharmacist Intervention to Improve the Administration of Injectable Antiviral Agents By Nurses in the Treatment of COVID-19 Infection

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OBJECTIVES: To Analyse the impact of clinical pharmacist intervention on the administration of injectable anti-viral agents by nurses in the treatment of COVID-19 infection.

METHODOLOGY: One-group pre-test, post-test experimental study was conducted during the month of May 2021 among the staff nurses of a secondary care hospital using a pre-structured and pre-validated questionnaire. The questionnaire was organized into 3 domains i.e, Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) regarding injectable anti-viral agents including Remdesivir were evaluated. Demographic details as well as the related information were also collected. Paired-t-test and Chi-square test was employed to evaluate the statistical significance of the study variables.

RESULT: A total of 56 nurses were included in the study, among which majority (59.7%) were diploma holders and rest of them were degree holders in nursing. On analyzing the years of experience of study samples, it was found that majority had 1-4 years' experience (46.3%) followed by 4-8 years (28.6%) and least percentage had experience for more than 12 years. The pre-test vs post-test values of the staff nurses show a significant improvement in Knowledge (6.7vs.10.5, $p<0.001$), Attitude (6.7vs 8.9, $p=0.003$) and Practice domain (7.1604 vs 8.3, $p<0.001$). No statistically significant association was observed between knowledge and practice of the nurses with the baseline variables like level of education or years of experience ($P=0.07$).

CONCLUSION: Clinical Pharmacist initiated continuing education programs for the nurses related to the administration practices of anti-viral agents like Remdesivir is very much crucial in assuring the proper clinical care to critically ill COVID-19 patients.