



A Study To Assess The Knowledge And Self Reported Practice Regarding Care Of Av Fistula Among Patients With Av Fistula In A Quaternary Care Hospital

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INTRODUCTION

A surgically created AV fistula is a connection between an artery and a vein, usually in the arm you use less often. This is the preferred type of access because of effectiveness and safety.

Although AVF is the best access for dialysis, the fistula is susceptible to various complications such as blood hypo flow, thrombosis, aneurysms, infection, hand ischemia, hand edema, and cardiac overload. Healthcare members, as well as patients, are held responsible for maintaining the patency of AV fistula (Smeltzer, 2016). AVF allows patients with CKD to get the treatment that is needed, serves as a lifeline to save their life. Patients must follow the self-care instructions given by the healthcare team members to maintain the patency of AVF and to protect their health.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula

2. To assess the self-reported practice regarding care of AV fistula in patients with AV fistula
3. To associate knowledge regarding care of fistula with demographic variables
4. To associate self-reported practice regarding care of fistula with demographic variables
5. To associate the knowledge regarding care of AV Fistula in patients with the self-reported practice in the patients.

METHODOLOGY

- a) Approach: Quantitative research approach
- b) Research design: Descriptive research design
- c) Research Setting: Nephrology Ward, Nephrology OPD, Vascular OPD, Dialysis Centre of Army Hospital R&R.
- d) Sampling Population: Patients with AV Fistula
- e) Sampling technique: Purposive sampling
- f) Sample size: 50

DATA COLLECTION

Data were collected through structured interviews using a self-structured questionnaire focusing on assessing knowledge and self-reported practice regarding care of AV fistula.

DATA ANALYSIS:

The correlation between knowledge and Self-Reported Practice regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula was tested using Karl Pearson correlation formula and the result showed that ($r=0.514$, $p=0.001$) indicating moderate positive correlation between knowledge and Self-Reported Practice regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula and was statistically significant.

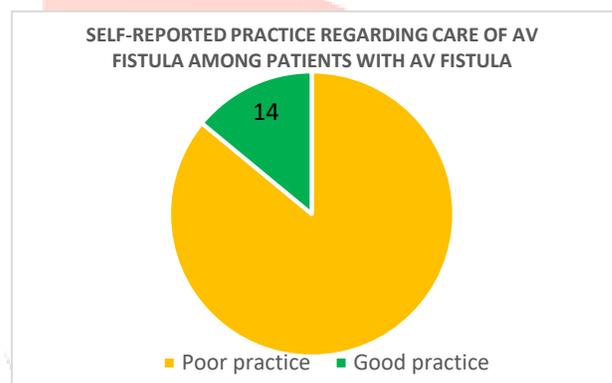
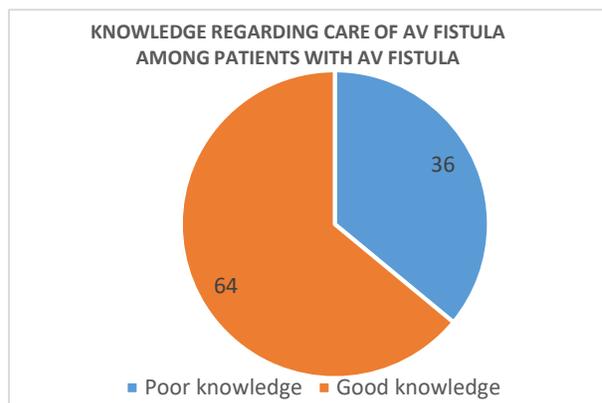
RESULTS:

The study illustrated that majority 32(64%) had good knowledge and 18(36%) had poor knowledge regarding care of AV fistula.

The distribution of Self-Reported Practice regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula showed that maximum 43 (86%) had poor practice and 7 (14%) had good practice regarding care of AV fistula.

The association between knowledge regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula with their selected socio-demographic variables was tested using chi-square test. Results showed that socio demographic variables such as age, gender, occupation, educational status, comorbidities, h/o AV fistula failure and currently on hemodialysis with AV fistula were found to be non-significant at $p<0.05$.

The association between self-reported practice regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula with their selected socio-demographic variables which was tested by using chi-square test.



AVfistula

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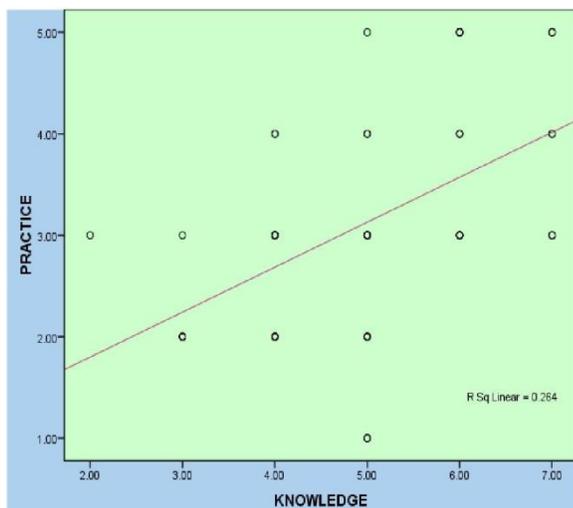


Fig : Correlation Between knowledge and Self-Reported Practice regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula

DISCUSSION

Study showed that there is moderate positive correlation between knowledge and Self-Reported Practice regarding care of AV fistula. Hence, efforts need to be made to improve knowledge regarding care of AV fistula.

IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

Healthcare providers should enhance their strategies regarding care of AV fistula emphasizing the importance of nursing education and community health initiatives should include targeted strategies to teach about care of AV fistula in auxiliary workers

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) More researches are required in this field for a better body of knowledge.
- 2) Similar studies should be conducted on a larger scale with more sample size to generalise the findings of the study.
- 3) During every visit to the OPD, the health care providers should inquire whether the patient has been following self-care practice regarding AV fistula.

- 4) Studies should be conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice for a better view of KAP gap.

CONCLUSION

The current study reveals a clear picture of the lacunae in the knowledge and self-reported practice regarding care of AV fistula among patients with AV fistula. It also suggests that there is a moderate positive correlation between knowledge and self-reported practice. This highlights the need for better health education and even better reinforcement of the knowledge so that the care of AV fistula ultimately improves. The lack of available researches also advocate for the need of more researches on the topic.

KEYWORDS

AV fistula, hemodialysis, knowledge, self-reported practice, Socio-Demographic data.