

## A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding wound assessment among staff nurses in narayana medical college & hospital, Nellore

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### Abstract

**Background:** A person can achieve a state of wellness and be riddled with disease if the symptoms are controlled and balance is maintained. Since no single best measure or standard of health exists, it is important to examine a variety of indicators and/or factors that put individuals and populations at increased risk of diseases. Skin the largest organ in our body. The skin functions as a protective barrier and it also involved in maintaining the proper temperature for the body to function well. It gathers sensory information from the environment, and plays an active role in the immune system protecting us from disease. Wound assessment is a comprehensive observation that should be documented in a systemic and standardized manner to ensure all practitioners involved in wound care.

**Objective:** To assess the knowledge of staff nurse regarding wound assessment.

**Materials and methods:** Descriptive research design simple random sampling technique was followed which included 60 samples were used. Data was collected through structured knowledge questionnaire on wound assessment. Data analysis was done with descriptive and inferential statistics.

**Results:** Majority of staff nurses, 43(71.6%) had average knowledge level and 17(28.4%) staff nurses had good knowledge on wound assessment.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that majority of staff nurses are having average knowledge on wound assessment.

**Keywords:** Wound assessment, protective barrier, immune system

### Introduction

A wound is a type of injury in which skin is torn, cut or punctured or where blunt force, trauma causes a contusion.

Wound assessment is a comprehensive observation that should be documented in a systemic and standardized manner to ensure all practitioners involved in wound care.

Accurate wound assessment is a key component of wound management, and is usually seen as the responsibility of nurses. Skin and wound assessment has evolved into a specialty of its own.

Surgical wounds may heal by primary intention, delayed primary intention or by secondary intention. Most heal by primary intention, where the wound edges are brought together (apposed) and then held in place by mechanical means (adhesive strips, staples or sutures), allowing the wound time to heal and develop enough strength to withstand stress without support. The goal of surgery is to achieve healing by such means with minimal oedema, no serous discharge or infection, without separation of the wound edges and with minimal scar formation. On occasion, surgical incisions are allowed to heal by delayed primary intention where non-viable tissue is removed and the wound is initially left open. Wound edges are brought together at about 4-6 days, before granulation tissue is visible. This method is often used after traumatic injury or dirty surgery.

Wound management is a multi-disciplinary concern although it is usually seen as the responsibility of nurses. Nurses are the professionals most involved in the management of wounds.

### Objectives of the study

- To assess the knowledge of staff nurses regarding wound assessment.
- To Find out the association between the knowledge with their selected socio demographic variables

### Materials and methods

- **Research Approach:** Quantitative approach.
- **Research Design:** descriptive research design was adopted.
- **Setting:** The setting selected was Narayana Medical College Hospital, Nellore.
- **Population:** All staff nurses.
- **Sample:** The samples selected are staff nurses in Narayana Medical College Hospital.
- **Sample Size:** The sample size is 60 staff nurses in Narayana Medical College Hospital, Nellore
- **Sample Technique:** simple random sampling technique.

### Criteria for sample selection

#### Inclusion criteria

- Working in orthopedic, general surgery or general medical wards.
- Willing to participate in the study.
- Available at the time of data collection.
- Having an experience in the profession for a period between 1 to 8 years.

**Exclusion criteria**

Staff nurses who not willing and available during data collection.

**Description of tool**

**Part A: Socio demographic Variables**

Age, gender, ward type, year of experience, and source of information regarding wound assessment.

**Part B: Structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge regarding wound assessment**

It consists of 30 items which are divided into nine areas namely;

- a. Anatomy and physiology of cell injury,
- b. Location of wound
- c. Wound size measurement
- d. Wound classification
- e. Assessment of wound edges
- f. Necrotic tissue type
- g. Exudates types
- h. Surrounding tissue characteristics
- i. Granulation and epithelialization.

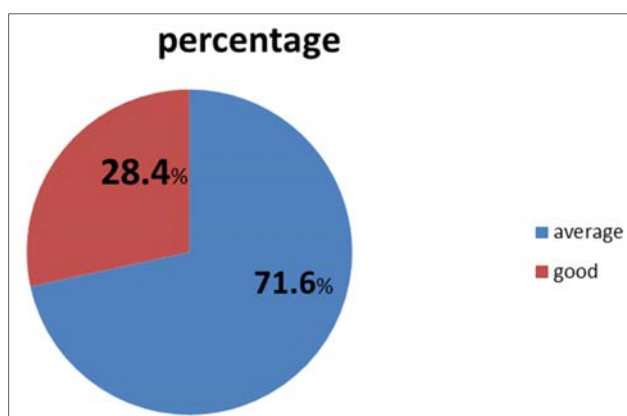
**Data analysis**

Data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

This chapter deals with analysis and interpretation of data. The data analysis based on the objectives of the study. The data

**Knowledge of staff nurses regarding wound assessment**

KNOWLEDGE	Score	
	f	%
Average	43	71.6
Good	17	28.4
total	60	100



**Fig 1:** shows percentage distribution regarding knowledge on wound assessment.

There is no significant association between the socio demographic variables of age in years, gender, ward type, year of experience, and source of information regarding wound assessment.

**Discussion**

The discussion of the present study was based on the findings

was collected from structured wound assessment questionnaire among staff nurses in Narayana Medical College Hospital Nellore.

**Section 1**

Frequency and percentage distribution of socio demographic variables of staff nurses.

**Section II**

Staff nurses Knowledge regarding wound assessment

**Results**

The results shows that frequency and percentage distribution with regard to age 35(58.3%) are between 26-30 years and 25(41.7%) are between 21-25 years, regard to gender, 11(18.3%) are males and 49(81.7%) were females, regard to ward type, 21(35%) were from general medicine ward and remaining 19(31.7%) were from orthopedic ward, regard to years of experience, 13(21.7%) were having 1.1-2 years of experience, 15 (25%) of nurses were having 2.1-4 years of experience, 15 (25%) nurses were having 4.1-6 years of experience and 17 (28.3%) nurses were having experience between 6.1-8 years, regard to previous source of information regarding wound assessment, majority of nurses 32 (52.3%) does not have any previous information and 14 (23.3%) of staff nurses were having previous information from mass media and 14 (23.3%) of staff nurses were exposed to workshops on wound assessment.

obtained from the descriptive and inferential statistical analysis of collected data.

**Major findings of the study**

- With regard to age, 35(58.3%) were between 26-30 years
- With regard to gender, 49(81.7%) were females
- With regard to ward type, 21(35%) of staff nurses from general medicine ward
- With regard to years of experience, 17(28.3%) are having experience between 6-8 years.
- With regard to previous source of information regarding wound assessment, 32(52.3%) does not have any previous source of information.
- Majority of staff nurses, 43(71.6%) had average knowledge level and 17(28.4%) staff nurses had good knowledge on wound assessment.

There is no significant association between the socio demographic variables of age in years, gender, ward type, year of experience, and source of information regarding wound assessment.

**Conclusion**

The study concluded that majority of staff nurses are having average knowledge on wound assessment.

### **Acknowledgement**

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