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Attitude, knowledge, practice and compliance behavior of occupational needle stick and sharp injuries among healthcare workers

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Introduction

Needle stick and sharps injuries (NSSI) and mucosal exposures to body fluid are occupational accidents exposing to health care workers to different blood borne pathogens. Although there were many guidelines, policy strategies and CQI programs to minimize injury associated with NSI and related exposures, the occurrence of similar injury was continued. All injured staffs should be reinforced to ensure fully compliance with the related management plan to minimize their potential risk.

Objectives

To analyze the cases of NSSI and mucosal exposures and their compliance towards the related management plan To assess and determine the factors associated with NSSI and mucosal exposures among healthcare workers.

Methodology

A cross-sectional study was conducted in Jan to Jun 2015 among healthcare workers (HCW) in NTE Cluster. Interviewer administered survey was conducted to each case at the end of 7th month after their injury whose should have completed the management plan according to the cluster guideline. A total 94 injured staffs were contacted by phone follow-up and verbal consent was obtained before collecting the data. SPSS version 20.0 was used for analysis and logistic regression model was also used to identify the possible association of the predictor to recap injury.

Result

Out of 92 staffs 23 (25%) were doctors, 49 (52.2%) were nurses, 17 (18.5%) were health care assistants and 4 (4.3%) were technicians and laboratory workers. Only 45 (48.9%) staffs were compliant with cluster's guideline with the management plan within 6 months. More than 50% non-compliance staffs seem that it's not necessary for any follow-up treatment / not big deal. Around 40% non-compliance staffs were forgot for blood taking as schedule. Majority of the staffs 73 (79.4%) were aware of the diseases caused by NSSI and mucosal exposures and knew about mode of

spread of hepatitis B and C. More than 79% staffs knew about safety guidelines and policy regarding precautions and management on NSSI and mucosal exposures, but only 39% injured staffs knew the follow-up management plan before received phone contact by Care Manager of Occupational Medicine. However, 32 (34.8%) staffs had history of needle stick injuries within 5 years and 45 (48.9%) were recap the used needle as usual in their practice. On bi-variate analysis respondents who practiced needle recapping were 2.8 times more likely to experience injuries than who did not recap needle (AOR = 2.83, 95% CI: 1.67 , 4.91). Available and accessible of safety guideline, using of personal protective equipment, staff's attitude and experience would be studied.