EVALUATION OF TEACHERS’ KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE EARLY DETECTION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES AT THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN BAGHDAD CITY

USAMA A. ALI1; ARKAN B. NAJI2

1Academic Nurse Specialist, Ministry of Health
2Assistant Professor, Community Health Nursing Department, College of Nursing University of Baghdad

Abstract

Objective(s): The study aims at evaluating teacher’s knowledge about the early detection of infectious diseases at primary schools in Baghdad City. Methodology: A descriptive design, using the evaluation approach, has been employed in the present study for the period of November 11th 2016 to April 20th 2017 in order to evaluate primary schools teachers' knowledge about the early detection of infectious diseases in Baghdad City. A purposive, nonprobability, sample of (120) primary school teachers; (60) teacher from Al-Karkh Sector and (60) teacher from Al-Russfa Sector in Baghdad City. A questionnaire is constructed for the purpose of the study. It is comprised of (2) parts which include (2) subparts and (15) section. All over items in the questionnaire are (153) item. The questionnaire is rated and scored on 3-level type Likert scale of 3= I know, 2= I am uncertain, and 1= I do not know. A pilot study is carried out for the determination of the questionnaire validity and reliability. Content validity is obtained through the use of panel of (15) expert and internal consistency reliability through the split-half technique (r= 0.93). Data are collected through the utilization of the study questionnaire and the employment of the interview technique as means of data collection. Data are analyzed through the application of the descriptive statistical data analysis approach of frequency, percent, mean, standard deviation and mean of scores and inferential statistical data analysis approach of Cronbach alpha correlation coefficient and the analysis of variance. Results: Results of the study depict that most teachers have experienced good knowledge about the early detection of infectious diseases (75%). The evaluation of teachers’ knowledge about early detection of Infectious Diseases indicates that teachers have acquired good level of knowledge about such early detection of Chickenpox, Conjunctivitis, Rubella, Lice, Hepatitis, Influenza, Measles, Molluscum, Whooping Cough, Mumps, Scabies, Diphtheria and Typhoid. Concerning the remaining Infectious diseases of Rubella, Tetanus, Meningitis and Glandular Fever, the teachers have developed fair level of knowledge about the early detection of these diseases. Conclusion: The study concludes that most of the primary school’s teachers have presented good level of knowledge about the early detection of infectious diseases; these teachers’ knowledge varies from good to fair level with regard to types of diseases; the study confirms that urbanized male married teachers with better education, more years of employment and greater number of training courses have acquired better level of knowledge; and the study approves that teachers’ knowledge about the early detection of infectious diseases is considered a critical and a crucial issues by which prevention of such diseases can be determined. Recommendations: The study recommends that structured educational program on early detection of infectious diseases can be designed and implemented for teachers in primary; Primary schools teachers can be presented with more opportunities to participate in training courses about the early detection of infectious diseases; Collaboration between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health to increase primary schools teachers’ awareness about the early detection of infectious diseases; and further research can be carried out on large sample size and series of characteristics.

Key Words: Evaluation, Teachers’ Knowledge, Early Detection, Infectious Diseases
References