Abstract

The study aimed to improve the care of hemodialysis patients, and to prepare an educating program for nurses knowledge & practice. The sample of the study consists of all nurses working in hemodialysis unit. The data was collected during the period 15/5/2004 – 20/9/2004 by using a check list which was consisted of (54) items for knowledge, and (48) items for practice distributed on three areas (Hemodialysis unit, material & equipment preparation, and nursing measures). The results of the study show that there is a large lack in the knowledge and practice of hemodialysis nurses. The educational program constructed was based on the results of the study, review of related literature and the opinions of the experts. The program was implemented through classroom sessions. Then the researcher evaluated the impact of the educational program on hemodialysis nurses by conducting a post-test. The results show that the educational program has a positive effect both on the nurses knowledge about (Concept and causes of Chronic Renal Failure , complication, hemodialysis, hemodialysis complication, care for hemodialysis patient, and caring for patient vascular access), and in the three areas of practice (Hemodialysis unit, material & equipment preparation, and nursing measures). According to the results of the study, the researcher recommends the necessity for preparing the training program and continuous educational program for the nurses in order to improve their knowledge, skills and also to develop their ability in dealing with hemodialysis patients.
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