

A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE, PERCEPTION AND PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOR OF SELECTED UNDERGRADUATE NURSING STUDENTS OF KASHMIR TOWARDS COVID-19 WITH A VIEW TO PROVIDE A STRUCTURED TEACHING PROGRAM.

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ABSTRACT:-

Covid-19 is a highly infectious disease caused by a newly discovered (novel) corona virus-2. Corona virus belongs to a family Coronaviridae. Corona virus was first identified as an outbreak in China and it was then declared as a pandemic by WHO on 11 March 2020. Due to this pandemic large number of people died across the globe and till now many variants of this disease are still emerging day by day which pressurizes WHO and the health care system of the world to stop the pandemic as soon as possible. The present study was conducted to assess the knowledge, perception and preventive behaviour of selected undergraduate Nursing students of Kashmir (Ramzana College and Bibi Halima College of Nursing) towards Covid-19 with a view to provide a structured teaching programme.

Methods of data collection procedure: A cross sectional study was selected to assess the knowledge, perception and preventive behaviour of selected Nursing students of Kashmir towards Covid-19. A total number

of 60 students from 1st year, 2nd year and 3rd year B.Sc. Nursing students were selected by using random sampling technique. A structured questionnaire consisting of 36 questions was prepared to assess the knowledge of students towards Covid-19, a structured questionnaire consisting of 11 questions was used to assess the perception of students towards Covid-19 and a 5 point rating scale was used to assess the preventive behaviour of selected students towards Covid-19. **Results:** Majority of the students 48(80%) had moderate knowledge regarding Covid-19, 6 (10%) had adequate knowledge towards Covid-19, 6 (10%) had inadequate knowledge towards Covid-19. Regarding perception revealed 3 (5%) had strongly positive perception of Covid-19, 14 (23.3%) had positive attitude towards Covid-19, 30 (50%) show neutral attitude towards Covid-19, 9(15%) had negative attitude towards Covid-19 and 4(6.67%) show strongly negative attitude towards Covid-19. Regarding the preventive behaviour of students towards Covid-19, Majority 51 (85%) show neutral preventive behaviour towards Covid-19, 7(11.67%) show good preventive behaviour towards Covid-19 and 2 (3.33%) does not show any preventive measures towards Covid-19. Overall students show moderate knowledge towards Covid-19 and neutral perception and preventive behaviour towards Covid-19. **Conclusion:** This study helped the Nursing students to