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**Knowledge and attitudes of final year nursing students of National School of Nursing, Sri Jayewardenepura and School of Nursing, Colombo on infusion phlebitis**Harshani RAT<sup>1</sup>, Perera PPR<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>*Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura,*<sup>2</sup>*Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura*

**Objectives:** Knowledge on peripheral venous catheter related infection is important to help healthcare professionals to minimise the risk of infection. However nurses/students knowledge regarding this aspect has not been studied previously. Thus this study was carried out to evaluate the knowledge and attitudes of final year nursing students on infusion phlebitis.

**Methods:** This descriptive cross sectional survey was carried out at National School of Nursing Sri Jayewardenepura and School of Nursing Colombo. A validated self-administrated questionnaire was applied. The questionnaire included 3 sections. Section "A" consisted of 3 questions about their educational background and gender. Section "B" consisted of 12 questions regarding knowledge on Phlebitis. Section "C" consisted of the attitudes scale regarding safe practice of cannulation which included 19 statements.

**Results:** Final year students in both nurses training schools participated in the study and 216 questionnaires were collected. Most of the students were female (95.8%). Most of the students had fair knowledge (60.6%) and mean knowledge score was 48.8. They had favourable attitudes towards safe practice of cannulation except hand hygiene (3.2%), type of gloves used during the procedure (3.7%), best place for documentation of cannulation (58%) and selection of cannula (29.6%).

**Conclusions:** The sample of student nurses' knowledge to some areas on infusion phlebitis is inadequate. This could be a potential risk for patient safety. Thus the subject should be more emphasized in training of student nurse

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**Knowledge and practices regarding insertion and care of indwelling urinary catheter in female patients at a teaching hospital**Rohan JP<sup>1</sup>, Amarasekara AATD<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup>*Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura*

**Objectives:** Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) is the most common hospital acquired infection in world wide. Adhering evidence based practice guidelines and correct practice regarding insertion and care of indwelling catheter minimize CAUTI. The objectives of this study were to determine knowledge and practices of nurses regarding insertion and care of indwelling urinary catheter in female patients at Colombo South Teaching Hospital.

**Methods:** The study was a descriptive cross-sectional study using pre-tested semi-structured questionnaire to collect information about knowledge and practices of nurses regarding insertion and care of indwelling urinary catheter in female patients at Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Sri Lanka. There were 122 participants from selected wards/units. The study was conducted at Colombo South Teaching Hospital Sri Lanka. This study was approved by Ethics Review Committee, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

**Results:** The response rate was 66.6%. Based on the scoring system, knowledge level on indwelling urinary catheter insertion was 36.1% and it was at fair category level. Most participants (79.5%) had satisfactory level of practices regarding indwelling urinary catheter insertion. Eighty-two percent of the participants had unsatisfactory level of knowledge regarding indwelling urinary catheter care. Majority of the participants (78.7%) had satisfactory level of practices regarding indwelling urinary catheter care

**Conclusions:** The findings highlighted that most nurses in this study showed satisfactory level of practices regarding indwelling catheter care. However significant level of knowledge deficit found on indwelling urinary catheter insertion and care. This points to an urgent need of education and training on catheterization and catheter care for nurses in Sri Lanka.