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Self-reported palliative care skills (SRPCS) of nurses following a hybrid delivery model educational intervention

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Abstract Content: In Sri Lanka, documentation of evidence-based systematic studies on Cancer Palliative Care (CPC) has not been considered in continuing education programmes. This study aimed to evaluate the skills of nurses following an educational intervention on CPC through hybrid delivery model (HDM).

Quasi-experimental study was conducted on nurses selected from two tertiary care hospitals in 2014. HDM comprising printed module for distant learning, multimedia enhancement, face-to-face interactive sessions and online communication on CPC was implemented over eight weeks to the systematically selected experimental group (n=38). Control group (n=37) followed routine clinical work. Self-reported palliative care skills (SRPCS) of both groups were measured with validated questionnaire and compared. Data were analyzed using SPSS version 16.

Pre intervention SRPCS between intervention ($\bar{x}$ 10.95 ±7.51) and control group ($\bar{x}$ 18.62 ± 6.03) were similar. Intervention group showed a significant improvement of overall SRPAS ($\bar{x}$ 62.58 ± 9.83) including all sub-variables compared to the control group ($\bar{x}$ 25.16 ± 4.89) 12 weeks following the intervention. Sub-variables measured were involvement of family, communication, psychosocial and spiritual support, pain assessment and pain management, ethical issues and bereavement in CPC. However the improvement of SR skills on pain management and ethical issues in PC were not statistically significant from the baseline to outcome evaluations.

Educational intervention through Hybrid delivery model was an effective in improving the nurses' skills on CPC This medel can be incorporated with continuous education of nurses to address the gaps in standards of nursing education at oncology settings.

Submission for: Concurrent session

In case my abstract is not accepted for oral presentation it should still be considered for POSTER PRESENTATION: Yes

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Presenting Author Bio 1: MKD Lalitha Meegoda (RN, RM, Dip in Teaching and Supervision, BScN, MScN, PhD) is working as a Senior lecturer in BSc Nursing Programme of the Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura from 2007 up to date. She worked in the School of Nursing Colombo as a nursing tutor from 1999- 2007. Her fields of interest were cancer palliative care, infection control and obstetric nursing. She is married and has son named Kithsara Geethan.

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