Evaluation of Nurses knowledge about hospital triage in Besat Hospital

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Introduction: Triage is a decision-making process to prioritize providing health care to the sick and injured patient in the shortest time as possible as. According to the protocol, experienced doctors and nurses are doing triage but for some reason it is now responsible for nurses. So these people should have good knowledge to triage patients. This study was designed to evaluate knowledge of nurses in emergency department.

Method: This cross-sectional study to evaluate triage knowledge of nurses in emergency department at Besat hospital. The study questionnaire was distributed among all nurses in the emergency department. The questionnaire comprised of 2 parts, 10 demographic questions and 15 questions evaluating knowledge. Data were analyzed using SPSS 16.0 and descriptive and inferential statistical tests.

Results: between 40 Nurses, 35 Nurses completed the questionnaire. 57.2% of cases were female with the mean age of 33.24 ± 5.37 years, and 42.8% were male with the mean age of 36.72 ± 7.28 years. Minimum of work experience was one year. Mean work experience of the female nurses was 8.05 ± 4.08 years and mean work experience of the male nurses was 10.65 ± 2.28 years. The review score of triage knowledge, it was found that 40.05 percent were given correct answers and their mean score of knowledge was 5.75 ± 1.96. Statistical analysis found a significant correlation between the work experience and the knowledge score ($p = 0.002$) and between knowledge and history of participation in triage courses ($p < 0.001$.(

Conclusion: The results showed that emergency department nurses have poor knowledge of the hospital's triage. Regarding the importance of the triage in the emergency departments of hospitals and trauma centers, especially in critical situations, Retraining courses of triages for all nurses in emergency department is recommended.

Keywords: Knowledge; emergency nurse; triage