

Abstract

Original Article

Injury Experiences and Precautions Taken by Nurses Working in Pediatric Wards Towards Penetrative/Incisive Tools

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Abstract

Background: Nurses and other health professionals are exposed to various occupational risks during their working life, such as needlestick and sharp injuries

Aim: A descriptive study was conducted in order to determine experiences of nurses who were working in the pediatric clinics of a university hospital and injured with penetrative-incisive tools, and the precautions taken by them.

Results: In the study, 74 voluntary nurses of 92 nurses working in the pediatric clinics were included. The data were collected by using a questionnaire prepared in line with literature. The data were assessed by numbers, percentage, and chi-square test. It was determined that 67.6% of the nurses participating in the study had injury experiences with penetrative-incisive tools, 20.3% were injured with a contaminated tool, and only 16.0% of them reported the injury. 31.4% of the nurses cleaned the injured area with Baticon®, 25.9% cleaned the injured area with water, and 18.5% dressed this area. 58.1% of the nurses declared that they did not have necessary knowledge about injuries by penetrative-incisive tools.

Conclusion: Most of the subjects don't take the precautions towards injuries caused by penetrative-incisive tools due to lack of comfortable movement, time constraint, being allergic to materials, and lack of materials. The reported injuries were limited and because of the perception that patients had a low contamination risk, and not knowing the necessity of reporting the injury. Moreover half of the subjects did not have sufficient knowledge, and more than half of them wanted to receive education about injuries.

Key words: injury, nurse, pediatric, penetrative/incisive tools, precautions.