

ORIGINAL PAPER

Nursing Students' Knowledge about the Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever in the Endemic Regions

Çiğdem Kader, MD

Assis. Professor, Bozok University Faculty of Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology Department, Yozgat, Turkey

Nazan Kiliç Akça, PhD

Assis. Professor, Bozok University, Health School, Yozgat, Turkey

Ayşe Erbay, MD

Professor, Bozok University Faculty of Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology Department, Yozgat, Turkey

Sevinç Polat, PhD

Assoc. Professor, Bozok University, Health School, Yozgat, Turkey

Correspondence: Çiğdem Kader, MD, Assis. Prof. Bozok University Faculty of Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology Department, Yozgat, Turkey. E mail: dr_cigdemtr@yahoo.com

Abstract

Aim: This study was conducted to determine the knowledge levels of the nursing students working in an endemic region about Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF).

Methods: This descriptive study involved 290 baccalaureate nursing students. Data were collected by means of a questionnaire.

Results: Half of the students indicated that following up a patient with CCHF makes nursing a highly risky profession. The participating students were found to be unwilling to deal with patients with CCHF because of the obscurities about the ways people contract the disease.

Conclusions: To improve nursing students unwilling to care for CCHF, particular emphasis should be placed on the training of nursing students as skilled nursing staff with humane attitudes towards CCHF.

Keywords: CCHF, infectious diseases, knowledge levels, nursing students