



## Quality Improvement initiative for Intravenous catheterization in NICU

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Intravenous (IV) therapy is an important and unavoidable part of therapy in NICU. Catheter related infections (CRI) were associated with IV therapy where we use IV catheters. In the United States of America CRI ranged from 6.4 to 8.3 episodes per 1,000 patient days in neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). The skills and techniques and number of attempts for putting IV line were deciding CRIs. Many studies showed educational intervention on nursing staff knowledge and to improve aseptic technique while performing IV cannulation in NICU

**Methodology:** a prospective interventional study done in a tertiary care hospital from January to June 2017 study participants were nursing population working in hospital who were willing. The study conducted in two phases included pre and postintervention phases

**Results:** The number of nurses who had high knowledge level about intravenous cannulation was just 20%, while after intervention this percentage improved to 90%. There was huge improvement in quality care element of intravenous cannula insertion after intervention.

**Keywords:** intravenous (IV), catheter related infections (CRI), NICU

### Introduction

Intravenous (IV) therapy is an important and unavoidable part of therapy in NICU [1-4]. Catheter related infections (CRI) were associated with IV therapy where we use IV catheters [5-8]. In the United States of America CRI ranged from 6.4 to 8.3 episodes per 1,000 patient days in neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) [9-12] the skills and techniques and number of attempts used in inserting IV catheter also have an impact on IV CRIs. [13-14] In most centers nursing staff will insert cannulas. Educational intervention on nursing staff knowledge will improve asepsis technique.

### Aims and objectives

Assess the effect of an educational intervention on nursing staff knowledge and to improve aseptic technique while performing IV cannulation in NICU

### Materials and methods

This is single group pre- and post-intervention design study done to explore the level of knowledge and skills on intravenous canalization among nurses in tertiary care hospitals at Hyderabad, India.

Study conducted by our neonatal fellow, six months from Jan to April 2017. Study population was nurses and neonates with IV cannula. Study done in Niloufer hospital. We included neonates with IV cannula and nurses who were willing to participate. We excluded nurses who were not willing. Sample size was 40 staff nurses who were willing sample calculated assuming 10% improvement in nurses knowledge after structured educational intervention by computer based software assuming 10% drop out rate at 80% power and 5%

alpha error Study was conducted in two phases

Our intervention was structured education of nurses. Phase I was Pre-intervention (1 month) during this phase, Nurses Knowledge was assessed using 10 multiple choice questionnaire (Annexure II). All questionnaire was checked for its consistency and accuracy. Baseline data was collected about Insertion technique by using care bundle. (Annexure III). Randomly two observation was done in a day and care bundle checklist was tick accordingly. Intervention phase about 3 months during this period establishing IV management guidelines (Annexure I) Training Nurses, Supportive supervision to help nursing staff was done. Reboost Phase was about one month during this period nurses were trained who were not up to the mark

Phase II was about 1 months during this phase, Nurses Knowledge was re-assessed using same 10 multiple choice questionnaire. (Annexure I) Assessed the Insertion technique by using care bundle. (Annexure III). Randomly two observation was done in a day and care bundle checklist was tick accordingly.

The data was analyzed using SPSS version 20 for windows. For comparing pre and post intervention paired T test was used.

### Results

The total population participated in study was 40 nurses staff. As displayed in Table 1, all the participant was females i.e. (100%).

Depending upon age 70% of nursing staff was in age group of 22-27 years and only 5 % was above 33 years. Depending upon Educational Qualification, 82.5% of nursing staff done

GNM (Diploma course in General Nursing) and only 7 staff i.e. 17.5% done BSc nursing. Depending upon work experience, 67.5% nursing staff have work experience between 1 – 5 years, 25% have work experience between 6 – 10 years and 7.5% have work experience above 11 years. Pre and post intervention knowledge level of nursing staff (Table2) participated in study according to which, 90% of nursing staff had high level of knowledge about peripheral intravenous catheterization as compare to pre intervention where only 20 % had high level of knowledge, 80 % of nursing staff had moderate level of knowledge in preintervention phase, while there was no staff was with inadequate level of knowledge in both pre and post intervention phase. This difference in knowledge is statistically significant (p<0.001). There was huge improvement in quality care element of intravenous cannula insertion after intervention (Table3). In care element I there was 24% quality improvement, 35.33%, 17.76%, and 77.10%, 9.51% in care elements II III IV V respectively. In pre-intervention phase 10 (18.18%) times' single staff took more than 1 attempt to insert cannula (Table 4), while after intervention rate of taking more than 2 attempt to insert intravenous cannula was reduced. on an average there was 08.02% quality improvement after intervention

**Table 1:** Distribution of the Study Participants (N=40)

Variables	Frequency(N)	Percentage
Sex		
Male	00	00
Female	40	100
Age		
22-27years	28	70
28-32 years	10	25
33years and more	02	5
Level of Academic Qualification		
Basic Diploma in General Nursing	33	82.5
Specialized Diploma in paediatric Nursing	00	00
BSc Nursing	7	17.5
Years of experience		
1 – 5 years	27	67.5
6 – 10 years	10	25
11 and more years	03	7.5

**Table 2:** Participants Knowledge Level on the Pre and Post intervention.

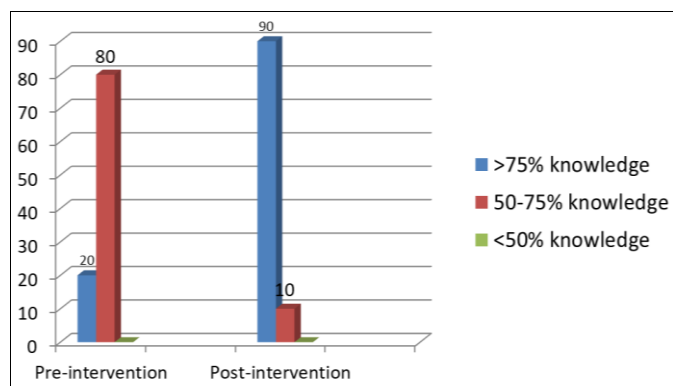
Level of Knowledge	Pre/N -10 (%)	Post/N-10(%)
> 75%: high level of knowledge	08 (20%)	36(90%)
50% to 75%: moderate level of knowledge	32 (80%)	04(10%)
< 50%: inadequate level of knowledge	00 (00%)	00(00%)
Total	40 (100%)	40(100%)

**Table 3:** Participant Performance level on Intravenous cannula insertion (Pre intervention and Post intervention phase)

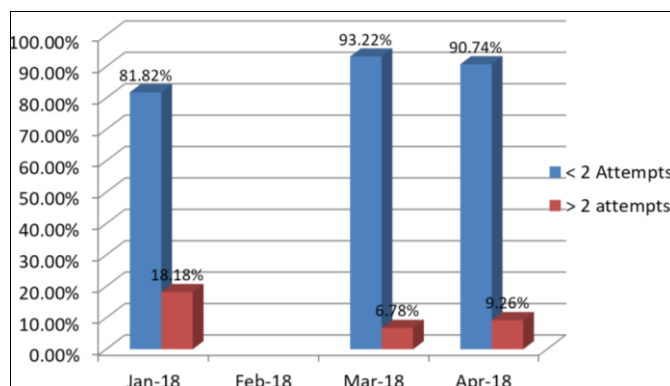
Care elements	Jan 2018 N-55(%) Pre-intervention	March 2018 N-59(%) Post-intervention	April 2018N-54(%) Post-intervention
Care element I (Hand hygiene)	35(63.64%)	51(86.44%)	48(88.88%)
Care element II(Personal protective equipment)	33(40%)	43(72.88%)	42(77.77%)
Care element III (Skin preparation)	39(70.91%)	50(84.75%)	50(92.59%)
Care element IV (Dressing)	00(00%)	44(74.58%)	43(79.62%)
Care element V (Documentation)	43(78%)	53(89.83%)	46(85.18%)
Total Element performed	00	43(72.88%)	42(77.77%)

**Table 4:** Number of attempt for Intravenous cannula insertion

Attempts	Jan 2018 N55 (%) Pre-intervention	March 2018 N-59(%) Post-intervention	April 2018 N-54(%) Post-intervention
< 2 attempts	45(81.82%)	55(93.22%)	49(90.74%)
>2 attempts	10(18.18%)	04(06.78%)	05(09.26%)



**Fig 1:** Participants Knowledge Level on the Pre and Post intervention



**Fig 2:** Number of attempts pre intra post intervention

## Discussion

A small number of clinical studies were found that focused on factors that influenced the life span of PIVs in infants, specifically within the context of the NICU. Various factors influence the length of time a peripheral intravenous catheter remains in situ. The material the catheter is made of, its gauge in relation to the size of the vein, insertion site, osmolality, pH, and chemical properties of infusates, all directly affect the efficacy and duration of PIVs (Pettit, 2006; Evans & Dixon, 2006; Pettit, 2003) <sup>[15, 16]</sup>. Nurses play a very important role in care of Babies in NICU. This study was conducted to explore the knowledge and practice on IV cannulization among staff nurses. The results of the study significantly increases the knowledge skill and management canula after intervention. A quasi – experimental study conducted by Deshmukh and Shinde (2014) <sup>[17]</sup> with the pretest – posttest design showed that knowledge and practice of staff nurses regarding venous access device care was improved by structured education. A preexperiment study design (preintervention, intervention, and postintervention) conducted by Shrestha to determine the effectiveness of the educational intervention in improving nurses' knowledge regarding the care of patients with CVC among nurses showed knowledge score (p=.039). Was improved after intervention <sup>[18]</sup>.

Pushpakala and Ravinath (2014) <sup>[18]</sup> used the self-instructional module for improvement of knowledge they showed good results <sup>[19]</sup>. El Nemr, Fahmy, El Razek, and El Salam (2013) <sup>[20]</sup> showed that, simple education will increase the knowledge and skills of healthcare providers as well as reduced CRBSI by 50% in ICUs <sup>[20]</sup>. It was observed that there was a change in knowledge and management of intravenous cannulation, as percentage improvement in desirable response in pre and post intervention.

## Recommendations

Motivation of staff nurses working in neonatal unit to have up-to-date knowledge of intravenous cannulation and management technique is very important. Hence there is need to evaluate, educate and train nurses periodically to have up to date knowledge and management skill of intravenous cannulation

## Limitations

Effectiveness of the intervention like estimation of CRIs not included. Randomization not done. Only single unit was selected to increase the power of study better to add more units

## Conclusion

By structured education of staff nurses we can improve knowledge, skills and management of intravenous cannulation

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