

## **Practice related to MCH Services among Nurses at Primary health Care Centers in Babylon Governorate/ Iraq**

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### **Abstract**

If you truly believe that every mother and every child deserves the best possible care, whether or not the newborn comes into this world or during that time or after, that means that you are with us on the same train. The study aims at assess nurses practice concerning MCH. Methodology: A descriptive study used evaluate approach with questionnaire items is conducted to explore nurses practice related to maternal and child health services. By a convenes random sample of (98) nurses is selected throughout the use of non-probability sampling approach. Data was collection through the use of a questionnaire and self-report nurses. Through the application the descriptive and dedicative statistic, data were analyzed. Results: "Latest findings show that 50 percent were young nurses (20-29 years), 56.1 percent were female, 66.3 percent were married, 65.3 percent graduated from a diploma, 52 percent medical assistant, 42.9 percent and 53.1 percent worked <5 years without training, respectively. At mean+ SD, nurse practice was 57.1 percent poor= 1.53+0.608. Conclusion: This research found practice in terms of maternal and child care, nurses were poor, and their practice was influenced by nurses age and training. More training of MCH program workers by local officials help to increase the practice of nurses practitioners. Providing health services and the manipulation of young nurses' energies, which actually helps to improve their skills.

**Keywords:** Practice, Nurses, MCH.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Prior to the establishment of QSEN, practice existed as an essential aspect of nursing practice; it has since been integrated into QSEN as one of its competencies. The current best guide for making decisions on patient care is deliberate and explicit and wise use of evidence-based practice. A combination of study and clinical experience and patient expectations or beliefs can be a guide <sup>[1]</sup>. The MCH services includes: Nutrition has been defined as the mechanism by which nutrient intake and use play a vital role in all areas of healthcare, particularly progress and expansion, health promotion and disease prevention, and acute and long - term disease management <sup>[2]</sup>. Breastfeeding

is important to the health and quality of life of children, providing benefits to infants and the other subjects involved in this procedure. This practice in Brazil is far from what has been recommended, despite the recent trend to extend the breastfeeding time <sup>[3]</sup>.

Nurses play an important part in improving public health. The emphasis of health promotion by nurses traditionally on the prevention of disease and improve people's actions with regard to their health <sup>[4]</sup>. In delivering oral health care, the dental health providers and nurses, dental technicians and dental assistants to the dentist. Dental health practitioners active in the therapeutic and preventive steps "such as the scale and polishing as well as promotional and educational campaigns aimed at the prevention of tooth decay and gum decay management, and oral cancer and other oral diseases. As with dentists, in Ireland, specialists only authorize approved dental health practices". Dental offers nurses to support dentists in dental treatment on the side of the chair and conduct other duties related to the prevention of infection and dental surgery preparation and patient care <sup>[5]</sup>.

## METHODOLOGY

To investigate nurse practice relevant to maternal and child health care, a quantitative descriptive analysis used to assess approach with questionnaire items is performed. Throughout the non-probability sampling method, a convenes random sample of (98) nurses is chosen. The study was spread through five fields.. These sectors are Hilla First, Hilla Second, AL-Musayyib, AL-Mahaweel, and AL-Hashimya for primary health care sector, according to Babylon Health Directorate/ Iraq. A constructed checklist includes (socio-demographic data and practice items), data was collection through the use of a questionnaire and self-report nurses. Through the application the descriptive and dedicative statistic, data were analyzed. "Frequencies and percentages, mean of score (M.s.); and Chi. Square test"

They  $\chi^2_{obs.} < \chi^2_{crit.}$  = insignificant

They  $\chi^2_{obs.} > \chi^2_{crit.}$  = significant

## RESULTS

Table1:Descriptive Statistic Nurses Demographic Variables

Variables	Rating	F.	%
Age/ year	20-29years old	49	50.0
	30-39years old	21	21.4
	40and older	28	28.6
Mean+ Sd.= 32.85+9.146			
Gender	Male	43	43.9
	Female	55	56.1
Marital Status	Single	27	27.6
	Married	65	66.3

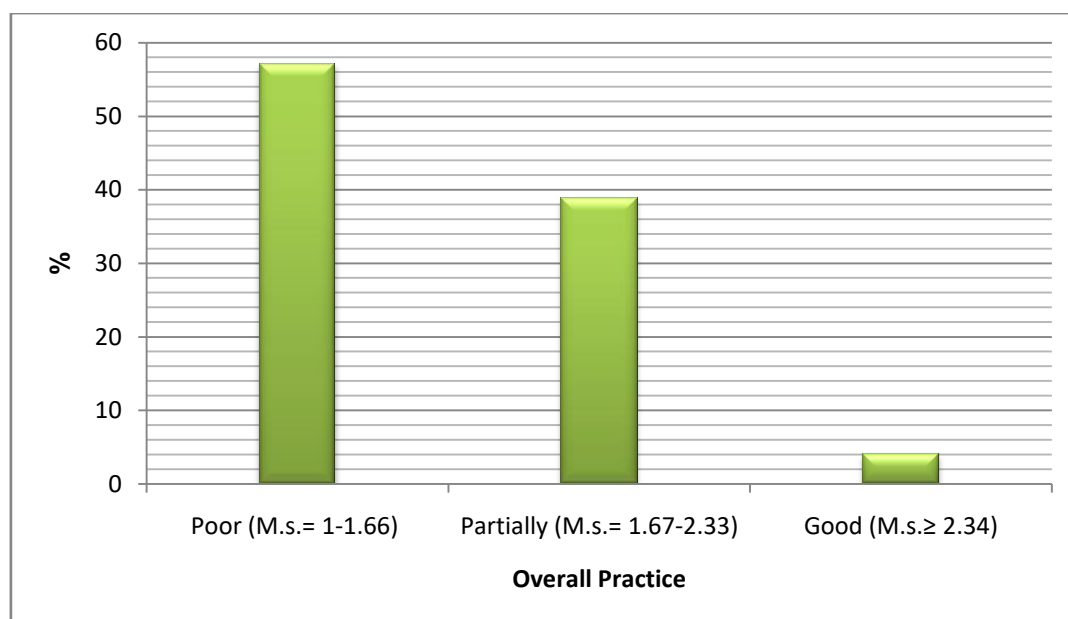
	Divorced	6	6.1
<b>Educational attainment</b>	Secondary school of nursing graduate	23	23.5
	Diploma graduate	64	65.3
	Bachelor's graduate	11	11.2
<b>Current job title</b>	Technical nurse	20	20.4
	Medical assistant	51	52.0
	Skilled nurse	27	27.6
<b>Years of experience</b>	Less than 1 year	13	13.3
	1-4years	42	42.9
	5-9years	39	39.8
	10-14years	4	4.1
<b>Years of experience in primary health care center</b>	1-4years	51	52.0
	5-9years	42	42.9
	10-14years	2	2.0
	15-19years	3	3.1
<b>Training course</b>	No trained	52	53.1
	One session	32	32.7
	Two session	9	9.2
	More than two session	5	5.1

The descriptive statistics of the socio-demographic details of nurses are described in this table in terms of frequency and percentage. Of the (98) subjects that participated in this research.

**Table 2:Practice Domains**

<b>Domains</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>S.d.</b>	<b>M.s.</b>
<b>Nurses Practice related to Nutrition Health Services</b>	98	0.605	1.40
<b>Nurses Practice related to Breastfeeding Services</b>	98	0.591	1.42
<b>Nurses Practice related to MCH Immunization Services</b>	98	0.768	2.13
<b>Nurses Practice related to women Immunization Services</b>	98	0.645	1.47
<b>Nurses Practice related to Health Education Services</b>	98	0.496	1.34
<b>Nurses Practice related to Physical Examination Mother</b>	98	0.579	1.36
<b>Nurses Practice related to Family Planning Services</b>	98	0.542	1.50
<b>Nurses Practice related to Mother and Child Care Services</b>	98	0.641	1.58
<b>Nurses Practice related to Dental Health services for Pregnant Mothers</b>	98	0.609	1.57
<b>Overall</b>	98	0.608	1.53

Overall, results indicate that the majority (57.1%) of nurses were bad practice at an average of +S.d.= 1.47+ 0.578.



**Figure1: Overall Practice towards MCH**

## DISCUSSION

### Table1:Descriptive Statistic Nurses Demographic Variables

Practice investigation, such as the one we performed in this report, may be a helpful complement to surveys on service availability and readiness evaluation to assess where and on what topics training is most needed. Where it is difficult to maintain routine training, treatment may be best concentrated in larger, better resourced facilities.. If such an approach is to be considered, appropriate referral structures would need to be in place and existing overcrowding and staff shortages in larger primary health care centers in Babylon should be resolved in order to accommodate a larger number of customers..

Of the (98) subjects who participated in this study, their age ranged from (20-29) years of age and constituted (50 percent) of the study sample, as young workers, especially MCH, must be the primary health care staff to cover all duties. Our results come from research findings conducted at the Ibadan Primary Health Centre. The findings indicate that the majority of nurses are young adults [6].

It is evident from our findings that more than half of the study sample are female nurses. It represented (56.1 percent) of the total number of the study population, since most of the health care reviewers are women, so it includes female health workers, as in our findings,, In our community, it is also normal for women nurses to be more than male nurses, since it is considered a feminine occupation by Iraqi society. These results are in line with the research conducted in Erbil City and address the expertise of nurses in primary health care. The majority of his research sample is stated to be females (59 percent) [7].

The distribution between married and single research samples. Where the proportion of married couples was the majority, the total amount accounted for 66.3 percent. It's also, the small proportion of those divorced among those results, since most of these age groups are the marriage age. These results consist of a cross-sectional design carried out in Oman. Most of the participants were married and made up 92.0 out of 199 subjects in total. <sup>[8]</sup>.

With regard to work variables, most of them medical assistants and graduates have 1-4 years of experience without training sessions, due to the diploma degree, due to the large number of institutions that graduate such degrees, the main proportion of staff nurses in health organizations are considered to be the diploma degree. The majority of nursing staff in primary health centers graduated with diplomas and lack of interest in training sessions were reported in the results of standard precautions among nurses in health facilities <sup>[9]</sup>.

## **Table 2:Practice Domains**

### **Nurses Practice related to Nutrition Health Services**

Including educational methods and programs facilitated by a nutritious food climate, nutrition education helps mothers and children strengthen their health systems. According to the report, our results indicate that the majority (66.3%) of nursing practice linked to nutritional health services was bad practice. To ensure that the dietary needs of consumers are met, nurses need to have experience and responsibility. To promote healthy eating and subsequent health outcomes, it is important to provide nutrition screening and accurate nutrition advice <sup>[10]</sup>.

### **Nurses Practice related to Breastfeeding Services**

Breastfeeding is important for the health and quality of life of children. Our results indicate that the majority of nursing practice linked to breastfeeding services (66.3 percent) was bad practice. This is consistent with Silvestre and others (2009), which confirmed that just over a third (34.8%) of the population surveyed understood three or more measures to succeed in breastfeeding<sup>[11]</sup>.

### **Nurses Practice related to Maternal and Child Immunization Services**

In order to avoid infections, vaccination actions are successful and it is necessary to emphasize such actions in their daily practice. The majority (66.3 percent) of nursing practices related to maternal and child immunization programs were partly realistic in our study, as many vaccinations were inaccessible, leading to gaps in their awareness.

### **Nurses Practice related to Immunization Services for Women in Puberty**

Centers issued for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations and the annual guidelines on children and adolescents immunized. However, "for many reasons, some parents refuse to vaccinate their children or delay or follow immunization schedules alternative, one of which is the misconduct of health workers" (Dempsey & Zimet, 2015). As stated in our study, the

majority (61.2%) of nursing practices related to immunization services for women in puberty were poor because of the absence of many resources <sup>[12]</sup>.

### **Health Education Services Practice for Nurses**

The majority (67.3 percent) of nursing practices related to health education programs were weak, and more narrow types of health education were likely to be performed. Whitehead et al. (2008) reported that health education and health promotion are universal structures linked to health. Therefore, there is an assumption that this will be implemented in a similar manner for all nurses. Where appropriate, nurses based in primary health care centers should aim to develop their practices in health education and further embrace broader viewpoints on health promotion practice <sup>[13]</sup>.

### **Nurses Practice related to Physical Examination of the Mother**

According to health care facilities available at primary health centers the majority of (69.4 percent ) of nurses practice related to physical examination of the mother were poor practice, due to culture and this come in findings of Yakuwa and others (2016), who found that nurses never less conducted a physical examination in a primary health care centers <sup>[14]</sup>.

### **Nurses Practice related to Family Planning Services**

Poor practice was the majority (52 percent) of nursing practice associated with family planning services. Contrary to the findings of Camiá and others (2006), most nurses can help provide care for clients in family planning services because health resources are available<sup>[15]</sup>.

### **Nurses Practice related to Mother and Child Care Services**

Bad practice was the plurality (50 percent) of nursing practice affiliated with mother and child care facilities. A distinctive breakthrough in nursing practice is the nursing methods and organizational strategies found in this context regarding the facilitation of continuous maternal involvement. This intentional "practice contrasts with models of care provision originating in higher resource settings such as Family Centred Care, including Europe and America, and contrasts with informal practices in local African settings that tolerate the presence of mothers in other settings, as well as local institutional policies that limit the presence of mothers to varying degrees" <sup>[16]</sup>.

### **Nurses Practice related to Dental Health services for Pregnant Mothers**

Many changes occur in the oral cavity during pregnancy that can be related to periodontal disease, including gingivitis and periodontitis. The majority (49 percent) of nursing practice for pregnant mothers linked to dental health services was bad practice. Proof that the absence of oral health care during pregnancy may have negative effects for mothers and their newborns as well as negative results due to the absence of responsible services and information <sup>[17]</sup>.

## Discussion the Overall Practice towards MCH

In view of the statistical cut-off point, this figure indicates that the majority of nurses (57.1%) were bad at an average of  $+SD = 1.47 + 0.578$ . Our examination appeared to perform less well due to the nurses operating with few of the weakly fitted facilities with the necessary equipment and supplies for mothers and newborns may also contribute to the lack of resources in the non-implementation of the guidelines. "Studies have also shown that the characteristics of the working environment (resource availability) can affect the skills of healthcare workers"<sup>[18,19]</sup>.

## CONCLUSION

This research found practice in terms of maternal and child care, nurses were poor, and their practice was influenced by nurses age and training. More training of MCH program workers by local officials help to increase the practice of nurses practitioners. Providing health services and the manipulation of young nurses' energies, which actually helps to improve their skills.

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