

“Opinion of Doctors, Nurses and Key informants Regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner (INMP) in Northern India”

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BACKGROUND

Despite improvement in coverage of institutional deliveries and skilled birth attendants, India has missed its Millennium Development Goal to reduce maternal mortality rate. The best way to lower Maternal and Infant Mortality would be to ensure presence of skilled birth attendant at every birth. Skilled care during childbirth is essential because millions of women and newborns develop serious and hard to predict complications during or immediately after delivery.¹

In order to increase access to primary care services specially to large underserved population, the Independent Nurse Practitioner (INP) is one of the best solutions.²

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the opinion of doctors, nurses and key informants regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner.
2. To determine the association of opinion score of doctors, nurses and key informants regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner with the selected demographic variables.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A quantitative research approach and non experimental descriptive survey design was undertaken for the study. 400 participants (120 doctors, 120 nurses and 160 key informants) were selected using purposive sampling technique. The study was conducted at selected hospitals and colleges of nursing in Ambala, Panchkula and Yamunanagar districts of state

Haryana, India. Data was collected by structured likert scale and technique used was paper and pencil (self report). Reliability of the tool was established by Cronbach's alpha and was found to be 0.76 .Time period of the study was from December, 2015 to June, 2017. The Ethical clearance was obtained from Maharishi Markandeshwar University's ethical committee (MMU/IEC/790). Further guidelines were followed according to ICMR (India). This was followed by obtaining permission from the concerned authorities of selected hospitals and colleges of nursing. After self introduction written consent was obtained from participants and information regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner was provided to them in verbal and written form along with the tool. Also debriefing of the participants was done. Finally, Opinion regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner was assessed. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis.

SUMMARY

Findings of the present study showed that 80% nurses believed that INMPs will be able to prescribe labour medications efficiently. About 80.80% believed that INMPs will be able to use advanced health assessment skills properly. These findings were consistent with other study where it was found that from a total of 363 nurses 50- 70% felt that the nurse midwife can perform the various aspects of maternity care independently namely antenatal checkup, recognizing high risk pregnancies, conducting normal deliveries ,managing complications related to mother and baby during delivery.³

RESULTS

•There was a significant difference between mean opinion score of doctors, nurses and key informants (F=108.3 and p value 0.001).

•Majority of doctors, nurses and key informants were having moderately favourable opinion towards Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner as shown in Figure 1.

•Majority of participants i.e. 71.30% of doctors, 79.50% of nurses and 76.80% of key informants had high opinion about competency of nurses.

•Majority of doctors (87.50%) believed that INMPs will not be able to perform emergency procedures efficiently.

•Most of nurses (80.00%) believed that INMPs will be able to prescribe labour medications efficiently.

•Majority of key informants (72.50%) agreed that mother's satisfaction will be higher with INMP's care.

•About 69.40% key informants disagreed that INMPs will not be able to work confidently and efficiently.

About 80.80% nurses believed that INMPs will be able to use advanced health assessment skills properly to differentiate between normal and abnormal findings.

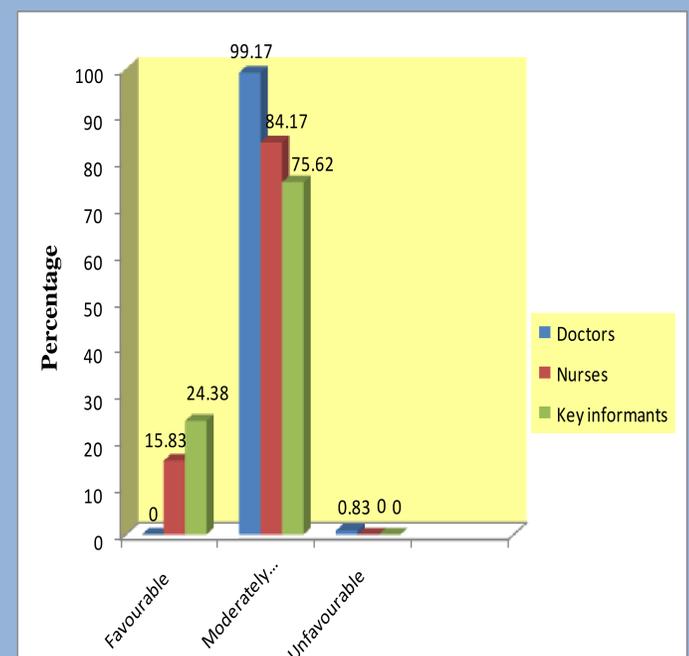


Figure 1 : Bar Graph Showing Percentage Distribution of Doctors, Nurses and Key informants in Terms of Level of Opinion Regarding Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner

CONCLUSION

•Nurses, key informants and doctors had moderately favourable opinion towards Independent Nurse Midwifery Practitioner .

•Majority of doctors , nurses and key informants had favorable opinion about competency of nurses.

•More than half of doctors, nurses and key informants had agreement regarding medication competency of nurses.

REFERENCES

¹<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-accouts-for-15-of-maternal-deaths-globally/articleshow/54436045.cms>

² [http:// www.inc.in/curriculum-independent-nurse-midwife](http://www.inc.in/curriculum-independent-nurse-midwife)

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