



The clinical nurses' knowledge, attitudes, and performance on incontinence associated dermatitis



Jung Yoon, KIM
WOCN, CWCN, RN, Ph D
Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Korea

Introduction

Incontinence-associated dermatitis (IAD) is widespread and a common problem in healthcare settings. It is defined as irritation of the perineal skin due to contact with urine, feces, or both. It is one of the major risk factors for the development of pressure injuries and is regarded as a quality indicator of nursing care. It is important to understand the knowledge and attitudes of nurses who are primarily responsible for providing appropriate nursing care that includes differentiation of IAD from other skin breakdowns, and appropriate management. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to determine the knowledge, attitudes, and performance of IAD among clinical nurses in Korea.

Method

Data about IAD knowledge, attitudes, and performance were collected from August to November 2024. 656 nurses from six hospitals participated in the study.

Results

The mean scores of nurses' knowledge, attitudes, and performance were 17.98 ± 2.91 , 76.34 ± 7.85 , and 91.53 ± 16.18 , respectively. Nurses' knowledge showed a positive correlation in both attitudes ($r=0.27$, $p<.001$) and performance ($r=0.09$, $p=0.02$), and attitudes and performance ($r=0.34$, $p<.001$) also showed a positive correlation.

Conclusion

To improve the knowledge and performance of nurses, an educational program consisting only of incontinence-related dermatitis is needed, and case-based education and clinical skills education are needed to enhance the ability to differentiate from pressure injury.

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