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ABSTRACT

The burden of pressure injuries was huge considering its prevalence and incidence rates across different care settings both locally and abroad. It was further aggravated by several factors such as an increase in high-risk patients who have complex health problems making them more vulnerable to pressure injuries: and challenges in the nursing workforce with high attrition rates resulting to uneven skill mix and inconsistencies in pressure injury prevention practices. It is necessary to intensify the implementation of pressure injury prevention that is based on evidence. However, translating effectively and consistently in the clinical setting remained to be a major challenge and the need to assess and understand the knowledge, attitude, practices and characteristics of nurses was critical in determining how well they can drive successful implementation. This study focused on providing baseline data about nurse factors and levels of knowledge, attitude and practice on pressure injury prevention among bedside nurses in one of the tertiary hospitals in the Philippines.

A descriptive, correlational design was utilized, and variables were assessed using validated research tools. The study population was composing besides nurses who were directly involved in patient care and who had at least six months of clinical experience in their respective nursing units. The survey was completed by 165 respondents and results showed good knowledge with an overall mean score of (71.80%), neutral attitude (79.78%) and high level of practice (84.89%) among the nurses. Knowledge was good particularly on risk factors for pressure injuries and on general preventive measures. Nurses' attitude has to be intensified in terms of prioritization of prevention and importance of risk assessment while staff education has to be strengthened to guide clinical practice. Majority of the nurses had 1-2 years of clinical experience and had not attended training related to pressure injuries. The nurse factors were very significant in identifying behaviors, strengths and weaknesses that need to be adjusted and in determining how nurses can drive the implementation of best practices to achieve better outcomes. There were positive correlations noted among knowledge, attitude and practice although strength of these relationships was considered to be moderate due to the distinct characteristics of the research tools used. The study also revealed that length of clinical experience had significant relationship with the nurses' level of practice ($p < .05$).

The goal of promoting positive behavior change towards pressure injury prevention has to be built on essential factors. The characteristics of nurses influenced their knowledge, values, attitudes and actual performance in the clinical area and the integration among these emphasized that knowledge, attitude and practices can impact positive change in one's

behavior. All these aspects have to be continuously assessed, considered and strengthened before attempting to initiate intervention so that nurses can effectively and proactively promote pressure injury and practice, a pressure injury care bundle program was proposed to streamline nursing practices on pressure injury prevention through training, actual implementation and continuous monitoring of clinical indicators.