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# Are junior doctors confident and knowledgable regarding intravenous fluid management in surgical patients? An audit; general district hospital

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#### AIM:

Aim of the study is to assess knowledge and confidence of junior doctors regarding Intra-Venous Fluid (IVF) management in surgical patients in general surgery department in a general district hospital. IVF management represents a mainstay of treatment of surgical patients. Junior doctors represent an essential part of the skeleton of the surgical team. The local hospital guidelines recommend that the knowledge and confidence levels in IVF management among surgical team are 100%.

#### METHOD:

Two questionnaires were done among junior doctors in the general surgery department. The first questionnaire which assessed their 'knowledge' and 'confidence' by 6 and 4 questions respectively, was done among 7 doctors. Based on the results' analysis, a teaching session was conducted among 8 doctors. That was followed by a second questionnaire, which assessed the same fields by 5 and 4 questions respectively.

#### **RESULTS:**

Analysis of results showed increase in junior doctors' knowledge from 66.67% in the first

questionnaire to 77.50% in the second questionnaire. Regarding their confidence level, it was 61.75% in the first cycle in comparison to 74.38% in the second one.

In the first questionnaire, regarding 'knowledge' field, 3 doctors scored 3/6 [50%]. 1 doctor scored 4/6 [66.67%]. 3 doctors scored 5/6 [83.33%]. Regarding the 'confidence' level, 1 doctor scored 19/40 [47.5%], 1 doctor scored 20/40 [50%], 1 doctor scored 23/40 [57.50%], 2 doctors scored 27/40 [67.50%] and 1 doctor scored 29/40 [72.50%].

For the second questionnaire, regarding the 'knowledge' field, 1 doctor scored 2/5 [40%]. 1 doctor scored 3/5 [60%]. 4 doctors scored 4/5 [80%] and 2 doctors scored 5/5 [100%]. Regarding the 'confidence' level,

each doctor scored 22, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34 and 40 respectively, out of 40.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The study showed initially an average promising levels of knowledge and confidence regarding IVF management in surgical patients among junior doctors. However, there was much improvement in these fields after conducting a teaching session around IVF management in surgical patients for them. The work recommends that it is worthwhile conducting regular teaching sessions about IVF management in surgical patients for junior doctors during their induction, on a regular basis.

### **Bibliography**

Mr Ahmed Showki Arnob is a senior house officer at Kettering General Hospital. He is working in department of general surgery. He is a Member of Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He is going to present this publication, if this is approved.

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