

Koutelekos IG¹, Vassalou E², Tsikli C³, WG Prep Man Guidelines CSS [Emfietzi E, Kokkini S, Lamprianidou E, Mpanousi A, Stavrotheodorou G, Stefanidis I, Tani S, Terzaki E]³, Polykandrioti M⁴, WG Procs periOper Nurs [Kannelou E, Karakostas K, Koufinou E, Poulis D]³, Vassalos CM²

¹ President of GORNA - Fac Nurs, TEI; ² NSPH; ³ GORNA; and ⁴ Fac Nurs, TEI, Athens, Greece

| Introduction

We aimed at conducting a survey about nurses' knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) on Central Sterile Supply (CSS) services and function for hospitals in Greece.

| Materials

An ad-hoc KAP-questionnaire (KAP-Q) on CSS procedures was developed based on the new manual "Guidelines on the CSS" published by the Greek Operating Room Nurses Association. The 10-section KAP-Q corresponded to the 10 chapters of the manual ('CSS function', 'Infection control', 'Standardisation', 'Cleaning', 'Packaging', 'Methods', 'Autoclave loading', 'Verification of efficacy', 'Traceability and documentation', 'Storage'). In a one-day seminar on CSS guidelines, 132 nurses, with 60 (45.5%) working in CSS, were asked to answer the KAP-Q pre-/post-training to evaluate their existing and gained knowledge.



| Methods

The KAP-Q scale and single-items were scored using a 100-point scoring system. Score analysis was carried out. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS 21.0. Chi-square test and Pearson product were used to explore the correlation of the respondents' existing KAP score with education level and time lag after graduation, respectively. Paired t-test was used to assess the gained knowledge. Results were significant at 0.05 level.

| Results

- Pre-training KAP-Q mean score was 72.88/100. The lowest mean scores were those on the 'Packaging' and the 'Traceability and documentation' (60.10/100, and 61.74/100, respectively).

- In 60 CSS workers, no association was found between KAP-Q score and education level ($\chi^2= 20.742$, d.f= 15, $p= 0.145$); however, there was a negative correlation of KAP-Q score with time lag after graduation ($r= -0.272$, $p= 0.018$; Graph 1).

- The 24 participants were found to fully complete the KAP-Q pre-/post-training. Their mean score increased by 17.10 points (from 66.65 to 83.75). The scores on the 'Packaging' and the 'Traceability and documentation' sections increased by 18.05 points (from 54.16 to 72.21) and 22.93 points (from 54.17 to 77.10), respectively.

- Pre-/post-training score analysis showed a statistically significant improvement on the participants' knowledge on CSS in all KAP-Q sections ($t= 7.762$, d.f= 23, $p< 0.001$).

| Discussion

This is the first study about KAP on CSS in Greece. All respondents scored above average. It is important for those working in CSS to keep their knowledge and skills up-to-date long after graduation. Training significantly improved the scores of items even in the KAP-Q sections initially scored low.

| Conclusion

A KAP questionnaire analysis would identify the nursing staff's weaknesses in CSS issues and facilitate the implementation of focused training to fill their gaps.

Conflict of interest: We certify that there is no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this poster.

