Coping Pattern of Older Adult Regarding Hearing Impairment

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of Master Degree in

Nursing Science Community Health Nursing

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I would like to dedicate this thesis to:

My family to whom I will never

find adequate words to express mygratitude To my great parents, My husband , pretty daughter and My Friend Thank you for your support and patience.

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BTE	Behind-The-Ear
CHN	Community Health nurse
CIC	Completely-in-Canal
Com	Chronic Otitis Media
dB	Decibel
dB HL	Hearing loss Range
HI	Hearing Imbairment
HPDs	Hearing protection Devices
Hz	Hertz
ITC	In-The-Canal
ITE	In-The-Ear
NIHL	Noise-induced Hearing Loss

Abstract

Coping pattern of older adult regarding hearing impairment hearing loss affects approximately one-third of adults 61 to 70 years of age and more than 80 percent of those older than 85 years. **The aim** of this study was to assess Coping pattern of older adult regarding hearing impairment **Sample:** Purposive subject of 200 older adult with hearing impairment problems was selected from outpatient clinic in Ain shams University Hospital and Nasser Institute hospital. **Tools**: of data collection interviewing questionnaire for assessing the older adult socio demographic data as (Age, gender, Education, Marital status…etc). Assessing clients' observational check list for assessing practice of hearing aid by using standardized check list. Assessing client coping pattern regarding hearing impairment. **Results**: Nearly one third of elderly had secondary education. More than three fifth of studied elderly had unsatisfactory total knowledge about coping. More than half of elderly had inadequate total reported practice about ear aids. **Conclusion:** On light of the current study results, it can be concluded that, more than two thirds of older adult among two groups had good knowledge regarding hearing impairment. Also, the majority of older adult among two groups had average practice as regard to care of hearing aid. There is statistically significant positive correlation between total knowledge and total practice of clients. **Recommendations:** Empower implementation of audio logical rehabilitation programs that include consideration and management of overall communication skills, and use of assistive listening devices.

Key words:, Older Adult hearing impairment coping and,

Introduction

Sensory restriction is an almost universal consequence of ageing. A decline in all sensory modalities including hearing, vision, smell, taste, touch and pain is frequently reported and well known Together with arthritis and hypertension, hearing loss ranks as one of the three most common health problems among older adults ***(Shohet & Bent, 2012).***

Hearing loss has been referred to as the invisible disability and a silent disorder this might be related to the fact that health professionals often ignore hearing problems among the elderly. Such ignorance could be due to a focus on other diagnoses and sensory problems that frequently appear in older age and are often assessed with higher priority ***(Wallhagen & Pettengill, 2013).***

Hearing loss is frequently denied, minimized or ignored by the older persons themselves. A considerable number of elderly do not apply for hearing aid fittings or any other form of professional help ***(Stephens, 2011)***.

Hearing loss can be an additional stress, along with reduced capacity and poor health, to the hearing-impaired

individual that might lead to negative consequences for daily functioning and socializing ***(Mulrow, 2010)***.

Hearing impairment has been found to be correlated with a decline of cognitive functions a higher level of co-morbidity and a higher risk for nursing home placement ***(Keller, 2015)***. Further, family members of the hearing-impaired individual may suffer from difficulties in communicating with their hearing-impaired parent or grandparent ***(Tolson, 2012)***.

The delicate structure and function of the ear make early detection and accurate diagnosis of disorders necessary for preservation of normal hearing and balance. Among the professionals involved in the diagnosis and treatment of these disorders are otolaryngologists and nurses. *Nurses* involved in the specialty of otolaryngology can become certified through the Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurses, Inc ***(Smeltzer et al., 2010).***

Significance of the study

The impact of hearing loss on the individual and society is significant. Development of hearing loss leads to severe handicap that affects the sufferer's life with subsequent social and economic burden on the society ***(Abdel- Hamid, 2007).***

WHO Estimate worldwide that 328 million (91%) of older adults (183 million males, 145 million females) have hearing impairment Approximately one third of persons over 65 years are affected by disabling hearing loss (***WHO, 2012).*** In Egypt client over 56 year have the highest prevalence of hearing impairment (49.3%) ***(Abdel-Hamid et al., 2007).***

In future years, the problem of hearing impairment is predicted to be aggravated as the expected life span of the population increases. It is important to shed light on reduced hearing among elderly individuals, especially because this impairment disrupts communication, which is crucial throughout the life span ***(Solheim, 2011)*** also, hearing impairment is a common risk factor for functional decline reduced social participation and withdrawal ***(Haanes, 2014).***