

**Safety Measures of Nurses Caring
for Children with Leprosy:
An Assessment Study**

Thesis

*Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements of Master Degree in
Pediatric Nursing*

By

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(B.Sc. Nursing, 2011)

**Faculty of Nursing
Ain Shams University
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List of Abbreviations

BC	Before Century
BCG	Bacilli Calmette-Guérin
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization's
HD	Hansen's disease
HLA	Human Leukocyte Antigen
HCWs	Health Care Workers
IC	Infection Control
ICNs	International council of nurses
LL	Lepromatous
MAR	Medication Adminstration Record
M. leprae	Mycobacterium leprae
MDT	Multi-Drug Therapy
MB	Multibacillary
PB	Paucibacillary
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PVC-boots	Polyvinyl Chloride
RCTs	Randomized Controlled Trials
TT	Tuberculoid
TB	Tuberculosis

Safety Measures of Nurses Caring for Children with Leprosy: An Assessment Study

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: leprosy or Hansen's disease is an infectious disease; the greatest risk issue for developing leprosy is in contact with another case of leprosy. Contacts of children with leprosy are five to eight times additional seemingly to develop leprosy than members of the overall population. **Aim:** The study aimed to assess the safety measures of nurses caring for children with leprosy. **Design:** A descriptive design was utilized to carry out the study. **Subject:** A purposive sample of nurses worked at inpatient and outpatient clinics (77 nurses) at Leprosy Colony in Abu- Zaabal Sector affiliated to the Ministry of Health and Population. **Tools:** Interviewing questionnaire form to assess demographic data, knowledge of nurses. Observational check lists to assess nurses in applying the safety measures during caring for children with leprosy. **Results:** Most of studied nurses had unsatisfactory knowledge regarding safety measures related to leprosy. Moreover, the majority of them did not apply safety measures during caring of children with leprosy. **Conclusion:** Based on the study finding it was concluded that, More than two-thirds of the studied nurses had unsatisfactory knowledge regarding safety measures in the leprosy colony. Also more than three quarter of the studied nurses had unsatisfactory practice regarding preventive measures. Meanwhile, there are less than two-thirds of the studied nurses had unsatisfactory knowledge toward the factors affecting services provided to facilitate application of safety measures. **Recommendation:** Providing in service training and continues educational programs for nurses caring of children with leprosy.

Keywords: Leprosy, Children, Safety Measures

Introduction

Leprosy (Hanson's disease) is a communicable illness resulting in the serious injury of the skin and therefore the nerves leading to social segregation and discrimination against affected children. The clinical manifestations might stay covert for long periods, which will reach as long as twenty years. However, Leprosy remains a serious public ill and need more innovation preventive measures (*Adhikari et al., 2013 & Couto et al., 2017*).

The diagnosis of leprosy in infected children relies on one in every of these main signs including skin lesion, definite sensory loss, positive skin smears and skin lesions will be single or multiple and typically hypopigmented, though sometimes blood red or copper-colored (*Monika & Wijeratne, 2017*).

Prevention and management of leprosy infection is an integral part of apply of pediatric nurses in a very pediatric setting as a typical precaution. Therefore, pediatric nurses are in danger of exposing the child to cross leprosy disease infection through their practices and conjointly the techniques to forestall transmission of leprosy disease

infection agents. However, updating nurses' knowledge regarding leprosy care protocols, as guidelines are required (*Kelbore et al., 2019*).

The significance of the Study:

In Egypt, leprosy remains and forever rampant and neglected from society and therefore the medicine of leprosy in Egypt is still unknown. In Egypt, risk factors governing the distribution of leprosy disease in rural populations are unknown. So, several nurses haven't any background regarding safety measures that require a lot of attention to check the strategies of application of nurses for safety measures once coping with medicine leprosy. Moreover, this study would be conducted to explore to what extend nurses performs safety measures and factors affecting services provided to facilitate the application of safety measures.

In addition, there is another leprosy colony in Alexandria and (18) outpatient clinic in all governorates of Egypt.

The aim of the Study

This study aimed to assess the safety measures of nurses caring for children with leprosy through the following:-

- Assess the nurses' knowledge about safety measures toward nursing care of the children with Leprosy.
- Assess the nurses' practices of safety measures toward caring of the children with Leprosy.
- Assess factors affecting services provided to facilitate the application of safety measures.

Research Questions:

- To what extent do nurses knowledgeable and practicing safety measures toward caring of the children with leprosy?
- What are the factors affecting services providing to facilitate the application of safety measures?