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**Original article:**

**Study of knowledge of staff nurses regarding use of** **defibrillators in intensive care units**

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**Abstract:   
Introduction:** A cardiac arrest, also known as cardiorespiratory arrest, cardiopulmonary arrest or circulatory arrest, is the abrupt cessation of normal circulation of the blood due to failure of the heart to contract effectively during systole. the present study was planned to assess the knowledge regarding use of defibrillators among staff nurses in intensive care units with a view to prepare an information booklet.

**Methodology:**Registered staff nurses working in Intensive Care Units who are willing to participate in the study. A blue print was prepared prior to the construction of the questionnaire which showed the distribution of the items. All the items were multiple choice question, which had four alternative response .A scoring value of 1 was allotted to each correct response and zero for incorrect answer. An arbitrary classification of knowledge score was done which was classified as,Good knowledge (18 to 27) Average knowledge (11 to 17) Poor knowledge (0-10)The final tool prepared had been tested for its content validity and reliability.

**Observations:** With respect to gender, majority of the subjects (50) 63%were female and (30) 37% were male.In relation to age majority of the subjects (40) i.e.40% belongs to the age group 21-30 years ,(30) i.e.37 % belongs to the age group 31-40 years and (10) i.e.13% belongs to the age group 41&above .

**Conclusion:** From the study it can be concluded that there was the challenge for nurses is to work together with other health members of the health team, to know when to use defibrillators for better patient outcomes. The following conclusions were drawn on the basis of the findings of the study.