A study of the awareness and attitude of nurses working in neonatal intensive care unit about hand hygiene compliance

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| Keywords:    | **Introduction:** As we know, about a quarter of infant mortality is caused by infection and hand hygiene can significantly reduce the death rate of neonates. It is therefore important to raise awareness of healthcare workers and adjust their attitudes about the guidelines of hand hygiene. To this end, this study seeks to investigate knowledge and attitude of nurses working in neonatal intensive care units in public and private hospitals.**\n
**Materials and Methods:** A 23-item questionnaire was designed based on the study of Gonzalez et al. regarding the knowledge and attitude of nurses about hand hygiene compliance. The questionnaire was completed by 20 nurses in the public hospital and 19 nurses in the private hospital. The data was analyzed using SPSS software after encoding.**\n
**Results:** In this study, 39 female nurses with a bachelor's degree in nursing with a mean age of 35.87 ± 1.8 years completed the questionnaire on knowledge and attitude of health hygiene compliance. The mean score of knowledge and attitude of nurses was 78.57 ± 6.72 and 78.65 ± 6.7 in public and private hospitals respectively, and there was no significant difference between the two groups in this regard (p = 0.937). More than 25% of nurses stated that they were more likely to follow hand hygiene guidelines under supervision and more than 53% declared that if their colleagues adhered to hand hygiene guidelines, they would feel bound to follow suit.**\n
**Conclusion:** Since knowledge and attitudes are indicators and predictors of behaviors in individuals, and the results of the study suggested that nurses considered supervision and performance of their colleagues as factors affecting hand hygiene compliance, it seems that more accurate training and monitoring in this regard is required.