



## Assess the knowledge regarding partograph among staff nurses at Tertiary Care Hospital

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### Abstract

The partograph is the most commonly used labor monitoring tool, widely supported by health professionals and recommended by the World Health Organization for use in active labour. The purpose of the partograph is to enable health care professionals to monitor wellbeing and progress in labour and provide timely intervention when required. A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted among staff nurses working at NMCH, Nellore with an aim to know the level of knowledge regarding partograph. 30 staff nurses were selected by using non-probability convenience sampling technique. Data was obtained through a pretested self-administered questionnaire and was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Chi-square test was applied as a test of significance with fixing the p-value of 0.05 as significant. The study findings revealed that out of 30 staff nurses 5(16.7%) had adequate knowledge, 16(53.3%) had moderate knowledge and 9(30%) had inadequate knowledge on partograph. Hence the study concluded that the need of in-service training to staff nurses to enlighten and updating the current changes in partograph.

**Keywords:** knowledge, partograph, staff nurse

### Introduction

The provision of quality care during child birth is believed to make a difference between life and death or lifelong maiming for millions of women during child birth. One of the major components of quality care is the presence of skilled attendants at birth. Access to and utilization of skilled care during child birth is, however, extremely limited in many developing countries. Skilled management of labor using a partograph, a simple chart for recording information about the progress of labor and the condition of a woman and her baby during labor, is a key to the appropriate prevention and treatment of prolonged labor and its complications.

The early detection of abnormal progress of labor using partograph will prevent prolonged labor and its attendant risks of postpartum hemorrhage and sepsis, eliminate obstructed labor, uterine rupture and its sequel; all of which are the major causes of maternal mortality and morbidity in our environment. The most recent statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO) show that 8% or 42,000 of all maternal deaths are caused by obstructed labor. Following the recommendation of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Maternal and Neonatal Health (MNH) Program promotes the use of the partograph to improve the management of labor and to support decision-making regarding interventions. When used appropriately, the partograph helps providers identify prolonged labor and know when to take appropriate actions. Use of the partograph reduced the number of prolonged labors (those longer than 18 hours), the need for augmentation of labor

with oxytocin, rates of cesarean section, and the incidence of infection.

Nurses are key members of health care services should have proper knowledge regarding the partograph for prompt identification of alterations in progress of labor. Hence the investigator felt there is a need to identify the level of knowledge regarding partograph among staff nurses.

### Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge regarding partograph among staff nurses.
2. To find out the association between level of staff nurses regarding partograph with their selected Socio demographic variables.

### Methodology

A Cross sectional descriptive study was conducted among staff nurses working in Narayana Medical College Hospital. 30 staff nurses were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique. Staff nurses working in antenatal ward, post natal ward and labour ward was selected to participate in the study. Nurse's who were willing to participate and who were available during the data collection was included in the study.

### Description of the tool

The tool consists of 2 parts.

- **Part I:** It deals with the socio demographic variables like age, educational qualification, Experience, attended any CNE programme.

- **Part II:** It deals with structured questionnaire consisting of 32 questions based on partograph.

**Score Interpretation:** Score of one and zero was awarded respectively to each correct and wrong answer.

**Table 1**

Level of knowledge	Score	Percentage
Poor knowledge	1-10	<50%
Moderately adequate knowledge	11-20	51-70%
Adequate knowledge	21-32	>71%

Content validity was obtained from nursing academic researchers and reliability of the tool was tested by using test and retest method. The reliability coefficients for all the tool was 0.78.

**Data Collection Procedure**

Formal permission was obtained from the Director, Medical Superintendent and Nursing superintendent in NMCH, Nellore. Informed consent was obtained from nurses. Nature and purpose of the study were explained, confidentiality of information was assured. The pretested structured questionnaire was administered to assess the awareness of nurses regarding issues impacting advanced nursing practice. It took 30 minutes to collect the data from each sample.

**Data Analysis**

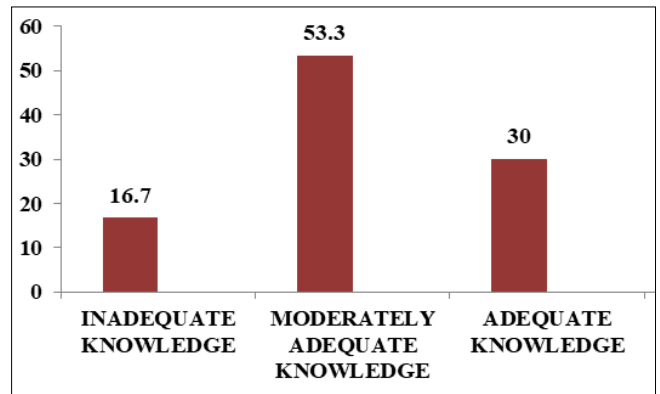
The data analyses were performed using IBM Statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 20.0. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used. Socio Demographic variables are analyzed in terms of frequencies and percentages. Knowledge score about the partograph among staff nurses was presented using Mean and standard deviation. Chi square test used to determine the association between the socio demographic variables and level of knowledge among the study group.

**Results**

**Section-I:** Frequency and Percentage Distribution of socio demographic variables

The results shows that frequency and percentage distribution with regard to age 13 (43.4%) staff nurses are between 22-24 years ,10(33.3%) staff nurses are in between 25-27 years and 6(20%) are between 28-30 years and only 1(3.3%) staff nurse is above 30 years of age. In reference to educational qualification 5 (16.7%) nurses completed G.N.M course, 22 (73.3%) staff nurses completed B.Sc (N) and remaining 3 (10%) staff nurses completed Post basic B.Sc (N). In view of experience of staff nurses 21 (70%) staff nurses are having 1-3 years of experience, 5(16.7%) staff nurses are having < 1 year of experience and remaining 4(13.3%) staff nurses are having 4-5 years of experience. In context to attend any CNE programme related to partograph 18 (60%) staff nurses are not attended and remaining 12(40%) staff nurses are attended the CNE programme on partograph.

**Section-II:** Percentage distribution on knowledge of staff nurses regarding partograph



**Fig 1**

**Section-III:** Mean and standard deviation of level of knowledge regarding partograph among staff nurses.

**Table 2**

Criteria	Mean	SD
Level of knowledge	16.21	4.4

**Section-IV:** Association between level of knowledge regarding partograph with selected socio demographic variables of staff nurses

There is a significant relation between level of knowledge and socio demographic variables like years of experience of staff nurses has obtained calculated chi-square value of 6.1with table value of 5.991 at 2 degree of freedom which is significant at  $p < 0.001$ . Remaining socio demographical variables like age, educational qualification and attended any CNE Programme has shown non significant association with level of knowledge regarding partograph.

**Discussion**

The primary aim of the study is to identify the knowledge level among staff nurses regarding partograph. With regard to level of knowledge 5(16.6%) staff nurses had adequate knowledge, 16 (54%) had moderate knowledge and 9 (30%) had inadequate knowledge on partograph. There is a significant association between the socio demographic variable years of experience and level of knowledge among staff nurses. The study findings are some extent correlate with the study conducted by Fantu Abebe *et al* (2013) [2] which concluded that More than half of the study participants had good knowledge on partograph and previous training related to obstetric care nurses have obtained more knowledge score on partograph than nurses who have not attended the training programmes.

**Conclusion**

The study findings concluded that majority of staff nurses had moderately adequate knowledge regarding partograph and explored the need for Periodic on-job training regarding to obstetric care and on the partograph should be provided to all obstetric care providers for early anticipation of labor associated complications and thereby minimizing the intra partum associated mortality and morbidity.

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