# Assess the Extent to Which Nursing Staff Adhere to Safety and Prevention Measures Against the Corona Virus at Basra General Hospital / Iraq

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**Abstract.** This study was conducted during the month of February 2021 until June 2021, and the first aims to Nurses commitment level to safety and prevention measures during coronavirus of Basra general hospital / Iraq and the second aims to create a safe work environment to nurse staff . The risks that workers are exposed to, by using appropriate preventive and personal measures to avoid work injuries and diseases that they are exposed to, and the latter aims to create awareness among workers about safe methods and the importance of adhering to safety and prevention measures. We used the descriptive and analytical approach to collect the necessary data using observation checklist with images used and observed for nurse work during hospital. The target population of the study consists of nursing cadres in Basra General Teaching Hospital. As the number of samples reached (130) distributed over the hospital lobbies. Participation included (129). SPSS Statistical Package 23 was used to analyze and arrive at the analyzed results and to apply descriptive statistics for methods, frequencies, and percentages. The largest participants were females more than males, and the participating ages were 20-30 years old, the most among the groups. One of the most important recommendations of the study is to keep pace with global changes and achieve safety requirements in hospital halls. The nurse also needs to deal safely by committing to wearing personal equipment inside the hospital to avoid injuries.

**Keywords:** Assessment , nursing ,staff , corona virus ,safety

## 1 Introduction

Coronavirus is a family of viruses that causes respiratory infections including the new coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) discovered in December 2019 in China. [1]. COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. This new virus and disease were unknown before the outbreak began in Wuhan, China, in December 2019 [2].

In the end of 2019 appeared in Wuhan, the capital of Hubei Province Chinese what is known as the new corona virus COVID-19 [3]. The coronavirus pandemic has led to the exposure of all groups of societies to an unprecedented change in a short period of time, forcing a change in their lifestyle, destroying the economy of many countries, affecting health care systems in all countries of the world, preventing movement and flight times, The world has become a prisoner of the Corona virus [4].

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This has also been reinforced by the strict home quarantine measures, travel restrictions, examination and continuous monitoring that have been imposed on most of the world's population, in addition to the large amount of misinformation circulating in social media.[5]

Not to mention the feeling of alienation, and psychological distress embodied in depressive symptoms, and even a state of boredom in general, which may later develop into severe symptoms at times.[6]

The new corona virus is that virus that belongs to viruses .The well-known corona virus that may cause disease to humans and animals, which was described by WHO. The global health pandemic, which appeared recently in the Chinese city of Yuhan at the end of 2019, and its pathological symptoms are manifested in fever, fatigue, dry cough and pain, as This virus is transmitted to humans through small droplets scattered from the nose or Mouth when an infected person coughs or sneezes, and the virus can also be transmitted For humans, causing this disease state through droplets scattered on surfaces surrounding the person. .[7]

Healthcare personnel, who are key to controlling and eliminating outbreaks of severe infectious diseases, are at high risk of infection. During the outbreak of SARS, Ebola virus disease, and Middle East respiratory syndrome, hundreds of health care workers were infected and even died.[8]

## 1.1 Objective

This study aims to know the nurses' commitment to the level of safety and prevention measures during Corona at Basra General Hospital in Iraq. So that we can complete it and work on evaluating the safety for the best in the event of injuries and preserving the lives of the nurses. The study aims to:

1-Explanation of the extent of commitment of nursing staff to personal protective equipment in the hospital during the Corona virus pandemic.

2-Providing the nursing staff with background information on safety and personal protection during Corona.

3-Emphasizing the role of training and awareness among nurses regarding safe ways to preserve people, and this will enhance the safety of everyone, raise their morale and increase their self-confidence.

## 2. Methodology

**2.1** Study design

Due to its usefulness and effectiveness for descriptive and assessment purposes, the cross-sectional study design was adopted, in addition to evaluating the cause and effect at the same time.

**2.2** Study Population and sampling

Based on the study problem and its objectives, the study population includes nursing staff in Basra Hospital In order to gather information about the current situation. Participation included (130) of nurse. and 129 were received

**2.3** Data collection instrument

The researchers collected data using a checklist , which included nurses working in words Basra general hospital, and analyzed the data. In addition working take picture to observe the

nursing staff.The checklist included general information including (sex, age, Academic achievement ,Years of service, some of the questions about the checklist).And the answer to the checklist placed was yes or no. Its purpose is to know the health system followed by nurses, hospital and patients. The results are discussed and appropriate solutions and recommendations presented in case of wrong or inappropriate behavior.

**2.4** Period of the study

This study was conducted from 24 February 2021 through the end of July 2021.

**2.5** Data analysis

The statistical program (Spss) (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) /version 23 was used to analyze and reach the results analyzed and applying descriptive statistics (Data analysis: SPSS 23 (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) was used, and the analysis was by frequency, mean, percentage, and Std. Deviation)

## 3. Result & Discussion

This summarized as follows:

1. Sample distribution by age

The age group 20-30 reached (40.3%),age group 31-40 reached (27.9%).while age 41-50 reached (21.7%).and age 50 or more reached (10.1%)

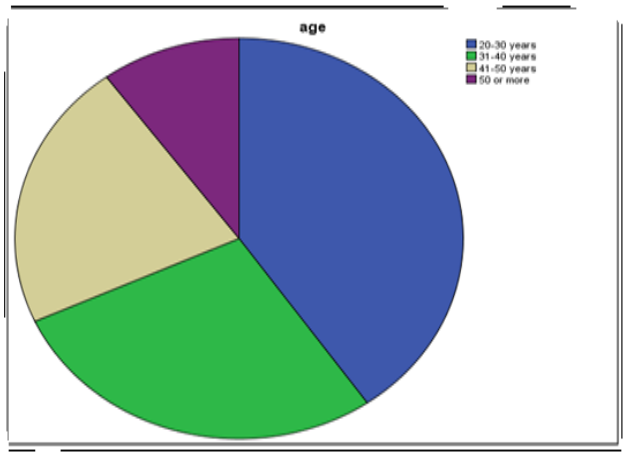
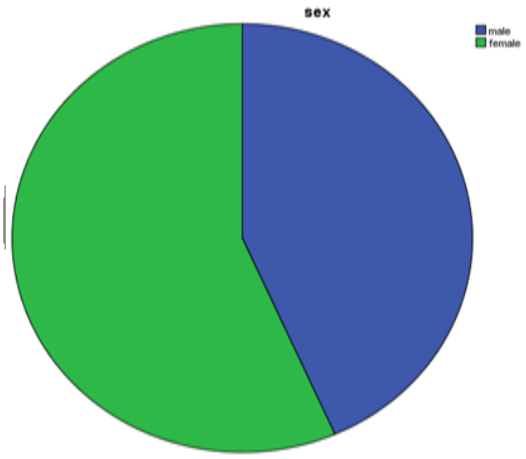



Fig .1. The distribution by age

**2.** Sample distribution by sex

It appears from analyzing data that the percentage of females which was (56.6%) is more than Males which was(43.4%)




Fiq. 2.The distribution by sex

**3.** Sample distribution by academic achievement

In appears from analyzing data that the percentage of middle school was (4.7%).Preparatory reached ( 50.4%).Diploma (40.3%) .and Bachelor (4.7%) .

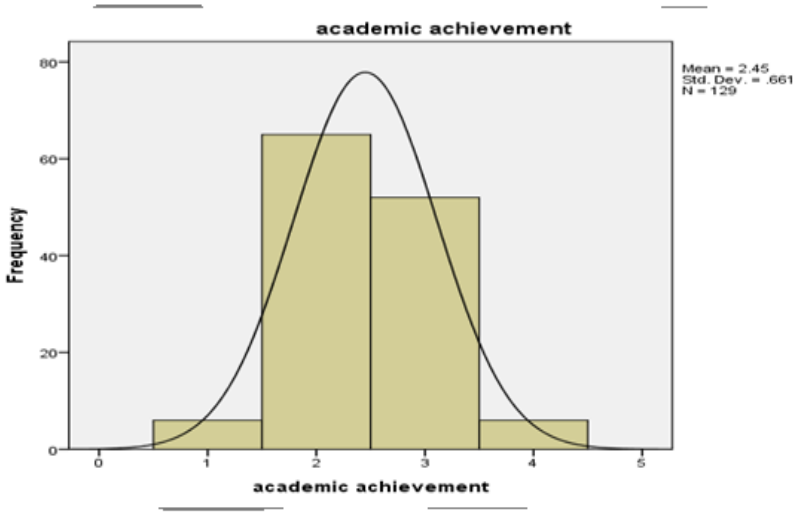



Fig.3. Sample distribution by academic achievement

**4.** sample distribution by years of service

About the years of service 1-10 years reached (38.8%).and 11-20 years was ( 27.1%).also 21-30 years was (20.2%).and 30 years or more reached (14%).

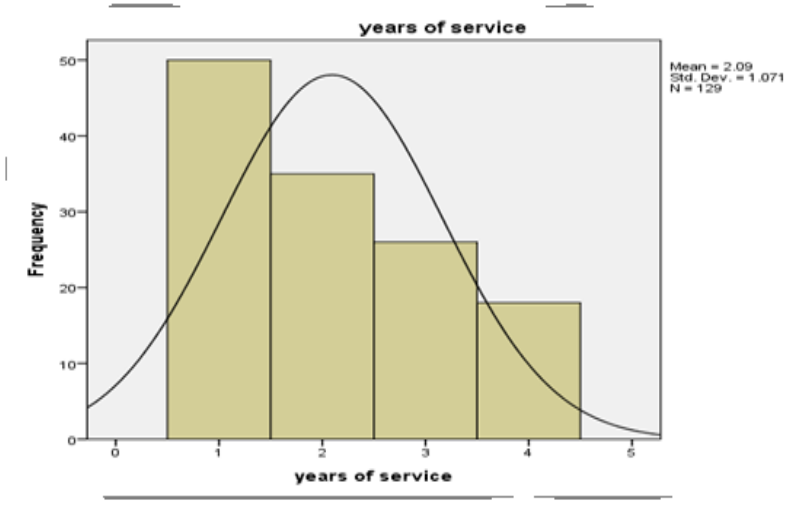



Fig.4. sample distribution by years of service

**5 .** Mean , standard deviation, frequency and percentage of participant answers of checklist

According to the answers of the questionnaire it shows there's some questions been answered with (no) more than yes or in very close percentages such as The first question was answered with no 50.4% , and question 15 was (53.5% ) no . Other data shows some issues that need to pay attention for , such as sterilizing or types of used masks and health care for both patients and nurses.

Table:.1 . Mean , standard deviation, frequency and percentage of participant answers of checklist

| | Q | YES & NO Freq & (%) | | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | Is there a booth for sterilizing? before entering the ward? | 64<br>49.6% | 65<br>50.4% | 1.50 | .502 |
| **2** | Is there sterilization materials in the ward? | 122<br>94.6% | 7<br>5.4% | 1.05 | .227 |
| **3** | Is there distance between the nurses and the patient ? | 91<br>70.5% | 38<br>29.5% | 1.29 | .458 |
| **4** | Nurses are not allowed to the ward except after wearing a mask ? | 114<br>88.4% | 15<br>11.6% | 1.12 | .322 |
| **5** | A temperature is taken for the patient's companion before entering the ward ? | 66<br>51.2% | 62<br>48.1% | 1.48 | .502 |
| **6** | The gown is to be worn before entering the ward ? | 112<br>86.8% | 17<br>13.2% | 1.13 | .340 |
| **7** | Wearing gloves in the ward? | 120<br>93.0% | 9<br>7.0% | 1.07 | .256 |
| **8** | The patient wear gloves and mask ? | 89<br>69.0% | 40<br>31.0% | 1.31 | .464 |
| **9** | Sterilizing the ward before entering | 87<br>67.4% | 42<br>32.6% | 1.33 | .470 |
| **10** | Sterilizing the ward after finishing | 76<br>58.9% | 52<br>40.3% | 1.41 | .493 |
| **11** | The type of the mask is N95 | 79<br>61.2% | 50<br>38.8% | 1.39 | 489 |
| **12** | Is the mask type a surgical type? | 91<br>70.5% | 38<br>29.5% | 1.29 | .458 |
| **13** | Are the items and clothes of patients infected with Corona sterilized? | 75<br>58.1% | 54<br>41.9% | 1.42 | .495 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **14** | Is it possible to sterilize and reuse medical and disposable face masks? | 56<br>43.4% | 73<br>56.6% | 1.57 | .498 |
| **15** | Gathering patients suspected or confirmed to have coronavirus in the same room | 60<br>46.5% | 69<br>53.5% | 1.53 | .501 |
| **16** | The presence of special waste to dispose of the belongings of the patient with Corona | 102<br>79.1% | 27<br>20.9% | 1.21 | .408 |
| **17** | Using disposable gown | 109<br>84.5% | 20<br>15.5% | 1.16 | .363 |
| **18** | Patients are educated about the dangers of Corona | 109<br>84.5% | 20<br>15.5% | 1.16 | .363 |
| **19** | The patient's companion is prevented from entering the ward if his temperature is high | 86<br>66.7% | 42<br>32.6% | 1.33 | .471 |
| **20** | Preventing the nurse from entering the ward if his temperature is high | 93<br>72.1% | 36<br>27.9% | 1.28 | .450 |
| **21** | The ward has adequate ventilation | 89<br>69.0% | 40<br>31.0% | 1.31 | .464 |
| **22** | Ward space is suitable for social distancing | 91<br>70.5% | 38<br>29.5% | 1.29 | .458 |
| **23** | The used masks are disposed of in a healthy and safe way | 113<br>87.6% | 16<br>12.4% | 1.12 | .331 |
| **24** | Gloves are disposed of in a healthy and safe way after leaving the ward | 113<br>87.6% | 16<br>12.4% | 1.12 | .331 |
| **25** | Are the nursing staff examined by their colleagues to ensure their safety from the Corona virus? | 81<br>62.8% | 47<br>36.4% | 1.37 | .484 |

**6.** pictures taken by researchers during the study (by researcher)

The test lab and researchers contributed to the present study.

Fig. 5. Test lab and people contributed to this study.

## 4. Conclusion

We can conclude the following:

1. The study is the first of its kind in Basra Governorate, which relates to Nurses commitment level to safety and prevention measures during coronavirus of Basra general hospital Iraq .

2. Urging such useful studies of population and for all medical and health cadres, not just nursing, to preserve and prevent injuries, as well as equip hospitals with personal protective equipment.

3. Hospital nurses use personal equipment materials to protect themselves from dangers, but the shortage of some personal protective equipment important to hospital safety.

4. Female participants were more than males and The highest age group 20-30 reached (40.3%)

Our recommendations

1. All nurses (male and female) of different educational levels should be involved in more obligatory roughness to develop and achieve optimum level of knowledge regarding their tasks as caregivers especially those working in medical-surgical words.
2. Activating continuous education units in hospitals to educate nurses to enrich their knowledge of such diseases in addition to peptic ulcers.
3. Further studies should be conducted on large samples relating to the educational levels of nursing as a whole.

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