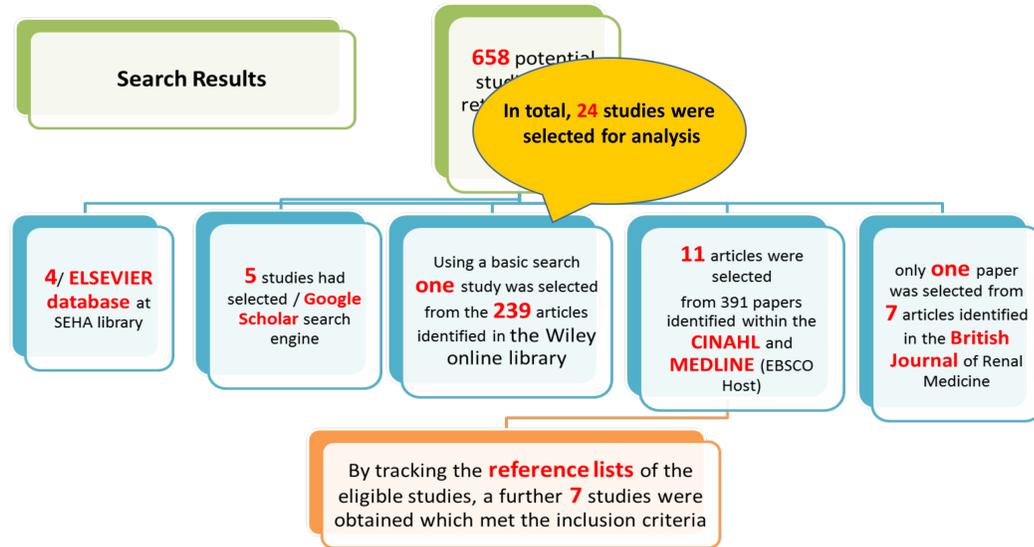


Do non-renal nurses in the emergency department understand the need to 'Save the Vein' in CKD patients?

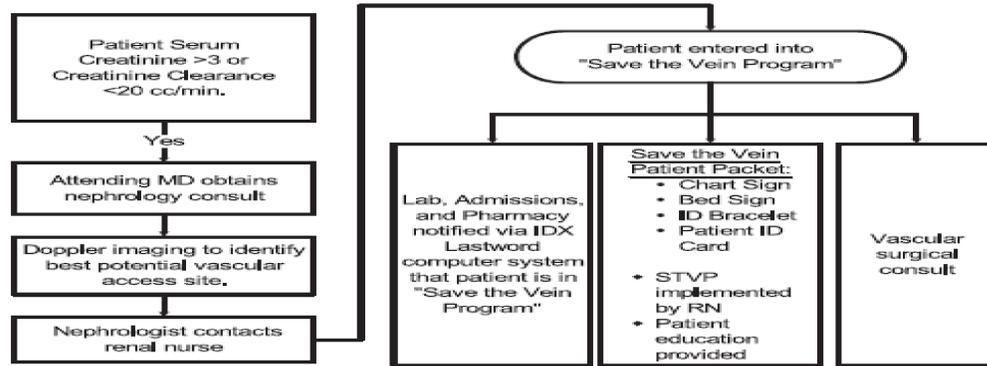
Mohammad Alghraybah, Anne Cullimore, Dr. Nick Richards, Dr. Nesreen alqaissi & Marie Richards

Introduction

The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) and Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) had set the fistula first initiatives: which recommends AVF as first choice of HD access and at least 68% of patients receiving hemodialysis treatment to have AVF. However, the ability to creating a functional AVF is depending on having patent and healthy arm veins, of sufficient size and elasticity to allow for dilation and maturation after surgical construction. Furthermore, the function of the AVF is dependent on a healthy central venous circuit back to the heart. Hence, the frequent venipuncture and indiscriminate use of peripheral intravenous lines such as peripherally inserted central catheters (PICC) and cannulas can damage veins, impair venous circulation and jeopardize future construction and function AVF. Therefore, preservation of peripheral and central veins is crucial to the success creation of a functional AVF.



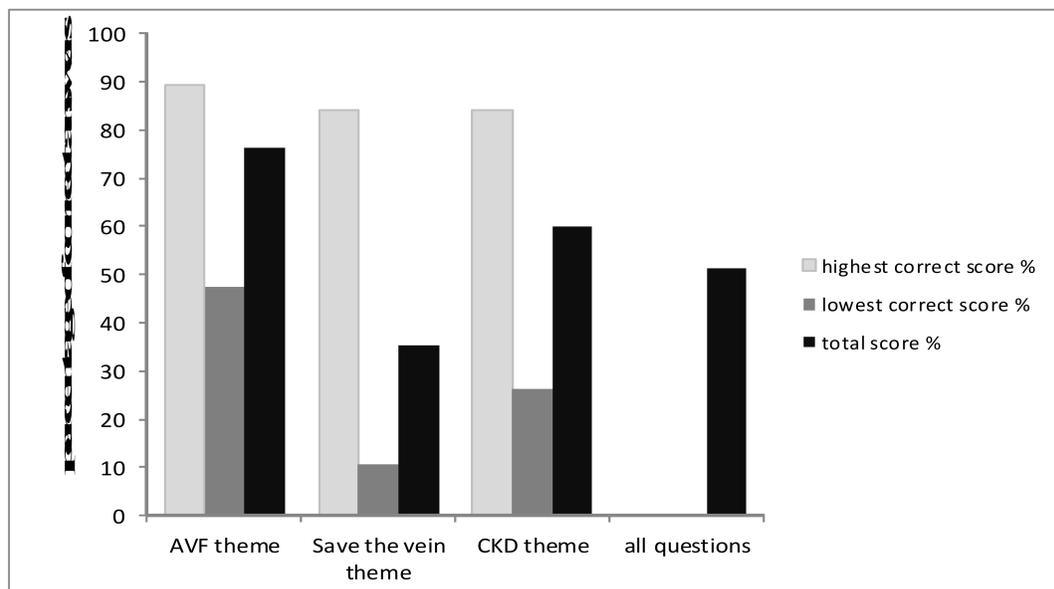
Save The Vein Program®



simplified version of the 'Save The Vein Programme' algorithm .

Methods

The researcher has used a quantitative approach utilizing descriptive survey design; an email questionnaire had constructed and sent utilizing survey monkey website to assess level of knowledge among non-renal nurses regarding vein preservation in CKD patients in the emergency department at a hospital in Abu Dhabi (capital of United Arab Emirates).



Results

Response rate 36.2%. 12 out of 19 (63.16%) were females, and 13 (around 68%) of respondent nurses have (6-10) years as experience in emergency department.

In general, the percentage of correct answers for all questions by participants was more than half (51.2%) In respect of themes, respondent nurses were hit the highest score of correct answers in the importance of AVF theme at 76.3% correct answers (frequencies =58 out of 76), whereas the respondent's nurses get the lowest score of correct answers at saving the vein programs' at total correct score percentage 35.5%. And around 60% of participants had correctly answering the questions that concerning CKD theme

Recommendation

Current study provides recommendations for many aspects that includes; Firstly, It recommends adopting saving the vein guidelines accompanied with strategies such as wristband. Moreover it suggests to set suitable saving the vein pathway at hospital settings and ambulatory health clinics in Abu Dhabi.

Secondly it suggests enhancing the general awareness regarding saving the vein initiatives among non-renal nurses through conduct conferences targeting non-renal nurses.

Thirdly, it is recommended on early detection CKD program in Abu Dhabi to adopt our study findings and extend their program to include saving the vein initiative in nearing future.

Finally, it recommends to conduct future studies on other areas rather than emergency department such as medical surgical or primary health care clinics and to be directed toward other non-renal health care providers.

Conclusions

This study provides evidence that suggests a low level of knowledge of vein preservation and CKD background among non-renal nurses in ED in Abu Dhabi Hospital and the need to enhance this knowledge in order to protect arm veins for CKD patients with the possible need to construct AVF.