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**Investigating nurses' Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice
toward Pain Management in the Emergency Department of
Babylon Hospitals.**

**“A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for Master of
Science (MSc) Degree” In Medical-Surgical Nursing**

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Abstract

Background: Pain is subjective, and it can solely describe with the aid of the patient experiencing it. The emergency department has been marked by shortcomings in both the evaluation and amelioration of pain; improvements in the science of pain assessment and management have combined to facilitate care improvements in the emergency department, addressing patients' pain is one of the most important contributions made by emergency department providers. Nurses in the emergency department have vital roles to control pain. Patient pain investigation is a critical factor of nursing practice, necessary to inform clinical decisions and direct patient care. Emergency nurses are responsible for the preliminary and ongoing assessment of patients' pain who exist in the emergency department. The literature focused on measuring and evaluating expertise scores; however, it is indispensable to recognize where the know-how gaps are and how to fill them. The research was conducted to determine the willingness of the Iraqi nurse working in hospitals and the emergency unit in order to develop their ability to treat pain, but because of the nurse's lack of contribution in deciding to remove pain in patients in the emergency department. A decision by the Iraqi Ministry of Health needed to be taken to involve nurses in this field and to determine the possibility of the Iraqi patients in the readiness of their information, trends, and practices they have in treating pain.

Methods: In this cross-sectional study, 328 nurses from 4 hospitals in Hilla city in Babylon Province of Iraq (Al Hilla teaching hospital, Morgan, Imam Sadiq and, Al Noor) have been entered into the study. A proportion of nurses entered in the study from each hospital by convenience sampling. After obtaining permission to conduct research and controlling the inclusion and exclusion criteria, the researcher provided questionnaires related to demographic information, nurses' knowledge related to pain management, nurses' attitudes related to pain management, and nurses' practice related to pain management to the participating nurses to complete. All questionnaires were in Arabic. The collected data has been entered into SPSS software version 26. and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics at a significance level of 0.05.

Results: The present study showed that (71.3%) of nurses age were between (21-28years old), more than half 182(55.5%) were female. more than three quarters 248 (75.6%) of nurses were having moderate knowledge toward pain management in the emergency department, (72%) of nurses were neutral in relation to attitudes toward pain management and (68%) of nurses were having moderate-practice toward pain management in the emergency department. There is highly significant relation between knowledge and attitudes p value (0.000) and also highly significant relation between attitudes and practice. Age, years of experience, and training courses were significantly related to nurses' knowledge regarding pain management.

Conclusions and recommendations: The nurses' level of knowledge, attitude and practice towards the emergency department was generally moderate. Therefore, there is a need to frequently implement in-service training on pain management for nurses working in surgical units.

Keywords: Nurse, Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Pain Management, Emergency department