

Volume 4, Issue 8, August 2017

International Journal of Recent Research and Applied Studies

SURRAGH PUBLICATIONS

ISSN: 2349 - 4891



A Study to Assess the Knowledge on Risk for Fall among Geriatric People Above 60 Years at Selected Oldage Home at Karaikal

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Received 1st July 2017, Accepted 10th August 2017

Abstract

A study to assess the risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years of age in selected old age home at karaikal. The research approach was adopted for this study was quantitative approach. The research design used for this study is descriptive design. A simple random sampling technique adopted to select the desired sample. Sample size is 50. Donna conley fall risk assessment scale was used to assess the risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years of age . The collected data was analyzed by using both descriptive and inferential statistics. Thus there was a significant difference found between the risk for fall among geriatric people (P<0.001). The present study concluded that 16% of geriatric people belongs to mild risk, 52% of people comes under moderate risk and 32% of geriatric people belongs to high risk for fall.

Keywords: Assess, Fall, Risk, Geriatric people.

Introduction

Aging, the normal process of time related change, begins with birth and continuous throughout the life. As the older population increases, the number of people who live to a very old age is dramatically increasing. Elderly people tend to acquire multiple problems and illness as they age. The decline of physical function leads to loss of independence and increasing frailty as well as to susceptibility to both acute and chronic health problems. The common problems of elderly people are falls, frailty, delirium, urinary incontinence and pressure ulcers and it leads to functional impairment, and cognitive impairment, impaired mobility. Research suggests that older adults are at increased risk of fall, hospitalization, disability and mortality. Falls are one of the greatest concerns for the elderly population, especially those in long term or acute care facilities are the possibility. Consistently the literature suggest that, occur half of patients in nursing home long term care facilities will suffer a fall or multiple falls. The consequences of such fall may result in hospital stays, fracture, depression, anxiety and death. It is reported in the literature that disability, morbidity and mortality rate increases significantly with the occurrence of fall. The high incidence of fall among geriatrics indicates high mortality and morbidity. It implies that more attention and care need for the geriatrics in order to prevent the hazards. Health teaching

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is the integral component of nursing practice. Hence, apart from the incidential teaching, nursing personal should conduct planned teaching programmes for the patients to enhance their self care ability. Nursing personal working in various health care settings should be given in service education to update their abilities in identifying the learning needs of the client s and in planning, conducting and evaluate teaching for different categories of patients.

Statement of the Problem

A study to assess the risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years of age in selected old age home at karaikal.

Objectives

- 1. To assess the risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years of age.
- 2. To associate the risk for fall among geriatric people with selected demographic variables.

Research Methodology

Research approach

Research approach used for this study was Quantitative research approach.

Research Design

The research design for this study is Descriptive design.

Setting of the Study

The study was conducted at St. Joseph's oldage home, karaikal.

Target Population

The population for the present study is Geriatric people above 60 years of age.

Sampling Technique

Simple random sampling technique was used.

Sample Size

Sample size will be approximately 50 geriatric people above 60 years of age.

Selection Criteria

The sample were selected based on following criteria:

Inclusion Criteria

1. The geriatric people who were residing in a selected oldage home at karaikal.

Results

Table 1

Data on risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years of age

- 2. Geriatric people who were able to read and understand Tamil / English.
- 3. Above the age of 60 years.
- 4. Both male and female.
- 5. Geriatric people who were willing to participate.

Exclusion Criteria

- 1. The geriatric people not residing in a selected oldage home.
- 2. Below the age of 60 years.

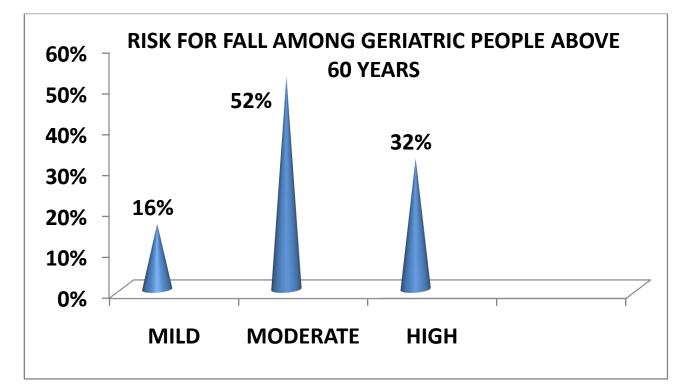
Description of the Tool

- The tool used for the study is
- 1. Demographic variable
- 2. Donna conley fall risk assessment scale.

S.NO	LEVEL OF FALL RISK	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1.	MILD	8	16%
2.	MODERATE	26	52%
3.	HIGH	16	32%

The table shows that 16% of geriatric people belongs to mild risk, 52% of people comes under

moderate risk and 32 % of geriatric people belongs to high risk for fall.



Findings

- 1. There is a significant association found between age, sex, religion, income, type of family, medication used and duration of staying in oldage home.
- 2. There is no significant association found between the risk for fall and education.

Conclusion

From the findings of the present study it can be concluded that falls are the leading cause of injury and fractures among geriatric people. It implies that more attention and care, need for the geriatric in order to prevent the hazards. Health teaching is the integral component of nursing practice. Nursing personnel should conduct plan teaching programme for the patients to enhance their self care ability.

Recommendations

- 1. Similar study can be undertaken on large sample among various setting.
- 2. A comparative study to assess the level of risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years between urban and rural area.
- 3. To assess the effectiveness of structure teaching module regarding risk for fall and its prevention among geriatric people above 60 years.
- 4. A comparative study to assess the level of risk for fall among geriatric people above 60 years between male and female.

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