

What is the existing situation of Patient Safety in Bangladesh?

- A study in district and sub-district health facilities

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Introduction

Patient safety is the prevention of errors and adverse effects to patients associated with health care. In developed country many guidelines or strategies are available to ensure patient safety at health care centres, which is need to establish in Patient safety is the prevention of errors and adverse effects to patients associated with health care. In developed country many guidelines or strategies are available to ensure patient safety at health care centres, which is need to establish in developing countries like Bangladesh to ensure a standard healthcare delivery system.

Objectives

The study was conducted to understand existing situation of patient safety at district and sub-district (upazila) health facilities in Bangladesh.

Results

All health facilities at district level and 50% at upazila level remained open for 24 hours to provide emergency services. 24 hours services for normal delivery were available in all facilities.

66.7% of district hospitals and all UHCs not had the services for 24 hours caesarean section. Health managers heard about patient safety but no one has the exact conception on it. They thought patient safety means security and safety culture of patient only.

The equipment for disinfection and sterilization methods were available in all 3 DH but 33.3% (n=2) in UHCs. Any governance for infection prevention and control and checklist in ICU/NICU/OT to prevent infection were not available in any UHCs but available in 33.3% (n=1) District Hospital. Infection control and prevention strategy were maintained in 33.3% (n=1) DH and 16.7% (n=1) UHCs.

All DH and 33.3% (n=2) UHCs had available documentation system for medication storage. In 66.7% (n=2) DH and 50% (n=3) of UHCs had available medication management process. In 66.7% (n=2) DH and 16.7% (n=1) of UHCs had available governance for implement and monitor medication safety.

As there was no protocol or guideline available regarding patient safety as whole or specific sectors of patient safety, managers couldn't maintain patient safety procedure properly. Other challenges were lack of human resource, logistics and supplied medicines for indoor and out patients mentioned by them.



Methods

Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used during December 2017 to January 2018 at the 3 district health facilities and randomly selected 6 upazila health facilities of Bandarban, Cox'sbazar and Netrakona districts. A checklist was used to collect quantitative information on patient safety. A guideline was used to conduct KIIs with Health managers and IDIs with store keepers were included. Descriptive analysis was performed for quantitative data and thematic analysis was performed for qualitative data.

Table: Distribution of areas in the KIIs and IDIs guideline

Qualitative study	Areas of discussions
IDI guideline	Availability of Logistics and Infrastructures Situation of available Human Resource
KII guidelines	Knowledge on patient safety Practice of Patient Safety Challenges in practicing Patient Safety Challenges in practicing Patient Safety Way forward



Conclusions:

A well-structured protocol regarding patient safety should be provided to health care providers to ensure quality services. If patient safety confirmed properly at every health care facilities then morbidity and mortality rate will decrease at Bangladesh.