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### A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding etioloical factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses at selected hospital, Puducherry

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#### **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Dissociative disorders are mental disorders that involve a disconnection and lack of continuity between thoughts, memories, actions, and identity. These disorders often develop as a reaction to trauma and help keep difficult memories at bay.

**Objectives of the study:** The main objective of the study assess the level of knowledge regarding etioloical factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses and to associate the knowledge regarding etioloical factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses with demographic variables.

**Methodology:** A quantitative research approach and descriptive research design was selected for the present study. The sample size consists of 30 staff nurses working in SMVMCH, Puducherry. A convenient sampling technique was used to select the sample for the present study.

**Results:** The present study revealed that, 18 (60%) of them had inadequate knowledge, 5 (16.7%) of them had adequate knowledge and 7 (23.3%) of them had moderate knowledge among staff nurses.

**Conclusion:** The study findings concluded that majority of the staff nurses had inadequate knowledge regarding etioloical factor of dissociative disorders.

**Keywords:** Dissociative disorders, staff nurses, etioloical factors

#### **Introduction**

Dissociative disorders are mental disorders that involve a disconnection and lack of continuity between thoughts, memories, actions, and identity. These disorders often develop as a reaction to trauma and help keep difficult memories at bay. Symptoms range from amnesia to alternate identities, depending on the type of disorder. Dissociative disorders are a family of disorders that involve the process of dissociation, which changes in normal memory and attention, leading to changes in memory availability and accessibility.

Mild forms of dissociation are common, and states of 'depersonalization' are another common experience. Dissociative disorders usually develop as a way to cope with trauma, often in children subjected to long-term abuse or a frightening or unpredictable home environment. People who learn to dissociate to endure traumatic experiences are at greatest risk of developing dissociative disorders. Severe and pathological forms of dissociation often occur as reactions to very stressful events, such as war, death, abuse, and other forms of trauma. Dissociative disorders disrupt or breakdown memory, awareness, identity, or perception, and people with these disorders use dissociation as a defense mechanism to protect themselves. Treatment for dissociative disorders may include talk therapy and medication, but many people learn new ways of coping and lead healthy, productive lives.

#### **Need for the study**

Dissociative disorders are often linked to traumatic events or stressful situations, with varying durations depending on etioloical factors. The global prevalence of dissociative disorders is estimated at 2.4 per 1,000 people, with a higher rate in women and men.

A study by Brad Foote *et al.* (2014) found that 29% of psychiatric outpatients had a diagnosis of dissociative disorder, with 66% having a diagnosis of dissociative identity disorder. Patients with dissociative disorders were more likely to report childhood physical and sexual abuse. In India, the majority of patients diagnosed with dissociative disorders were diagnosed with convulsions. Female predominance was observed across all sub-types of dissociative disorder, except dissociative fugue.

### Statement of the problem

A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses at selected hospital Puducherry.

### Objectives of the study

1. To assess the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses.
2. To associate the knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses with demographic variables.

### Research Methodology

A quantitative research approach and a descriptive research design was selected for the present study. The present study was conducted at Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital., Puducherry. Using a convenient sampling technique 30 staff nurses working in SMVMCH, Puducherry was selected. The tool consists of demographic data, and structured questionnaire. The outcome of the study was evaluated by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

### Inclusion Criteria

1. Staff nurse both male and female.
2. Staff nurse at the time of data collection.

### Exclusion criteria

1. Staff nurses who were not willing to participate in this study.
2. Staff nurses who were not at the time of data collection.

### Section A

Demographic variables consists of demographic variables such as age, sex, residential area, religion, nationality, marital status, professional qualification, type of work

setting, total number of experience in nursing, experience in psychiatric unit, monthly income, Got In-service education or attended conference or seminar and previous knowledge about etiological factors of dissociative disorder.

### Section B

This consists of “assessment for level of knowledge regarding etiological factors of dissociative disorder” interpretation of inadequate knowledge, moderately adequate knowledge, and adequate knowledge.

### Scoring Interpretation

S. No	Score	Interpretation
1	1-6	Inadequate knowledge
2	7-13	Moderate knowledge
3	14-20	Adequate knowledge

### Data analysis and interpretation

The data collected was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The data was organised as

**Section A:** Description of demographic variables of staff nurses

**Section B:** Assessment of the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses.

**Section C:** Association of the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses with selected demographic variables

**Section A: Description of demographic variables of staff nurses**

**Table 1:** Distribution of demographic variables of staff nurses N = 30

S. No	Demographic variables	Frequency	Percentage
1.	<b>Age in years</b>		
	a) 22 - 31 years	27	90%
	b) 31 - 45years	3	10%
	c) Above 45 years	0	0%
2.	<b>Gender</b>		
	a) Male	3	90%
	b) Female	27	10%
3.	<b>Religion</b>		
	a) Hindu	26	86.7%
	b) Muslim	2	6.7%
	c) Christian	2	6.7%
	d) Others	0	0%
4.	<b>Residential area</b>		
	a) Urban	16	53.3%
	b) Rural	14	46.7%
5.	<b>Nationality</b>		
	a) Indian	30	100%
	b) Others	0	0%
6.	<b>Marital Status</b>		
	a) Married	13	43.3%
	b) Unmarried	17	56.7%
7.	<b>Professional qualification</b>		
	a) Postgraduate	6	20%
	b) Graduate	22	73.3%
	c) Diploma	2	6.7%
	d) Others		
8.	<b>Types of work setting</b>		

	a) Inpatient	10	33.3%
	b) Outpatient	1	3.3%
	c) Ward setting	19	63.3%
	<b>Total number of experiences in nursing</b>		
9.	a) Less than 1 year	12	40%
	b) 1-5 years	11	36.7%
	c) 6-10 years	7	23.3%
	d) Above 10 years	0	0%
	<b>Experience in psychiatric unit</b>		
10.	a) Less than 1 year	27	90%
	b) 1-5 years	2	6.7%
	c) 6-10 years	1	3.3%
	d) Above 10 years	0	0%
	<b>Monthly income</b>		
11.	a) Less than Rs.9,000/-month	11	36.7%
	b) Rs. 11000- 15,000/-month	15	50%
	c) Rs. 15,000-20000/-month	4	13.3%
	d) Above Rs. 20000/-month	0	0%
	<b>Got In-service education or attended conference or seminar</b>		
12.	a) Yes	26	86.7%
	b) No	4	13.3%
	<b>Previous knowledge about etiological factors of dissociative disorder</b>		
13.	a) Yes	22	73.3%
	b) No	8	26.7%

The above table shows frequency and percentage-wise distribution of women attending fertility centre. Regarding the age in years, the majority 27 (90%) were in the age group of 22-31 years, 3(10%) were in the age group of 31-45 years. In the aspect of religion majority, 26 (86.7%) were Hindu, 2 (6.7%) were Muslim and 2 (6.7%) were Christian. In the aspect of residential area, majority 16 (53.3%) were living in urban area and 14 (46.7%) were living in rural area. Regarding nationality 30 (100%) are Indian. Regarding marital status, 17 (56.7%) were unmarried and 13 (43.3%) were married. In the aspect of professional qualification

majority, 22 (73.3%) were graduate, 6 (20%) were post graduate. With regards type of work setting majority, 10 (33.3%) were inpatient and 19 (63.3%) were ward setting. With regards to experience in psychiatric unit majority 27 (90%) had less than 1 year experience and 2 (6.7%) had 1-5-year experience. In the aspect of monthly income, majority 15 (50%) had Rs. 11000- 15,000/-month and 11 (36.7%) had less than Rs. 9,000/-month. Regarding the previous knowledge about etiological factors of dissociative disorder 22 (73.3%) had previous knowledge and 8 (26.7%) had no previous knowledge.

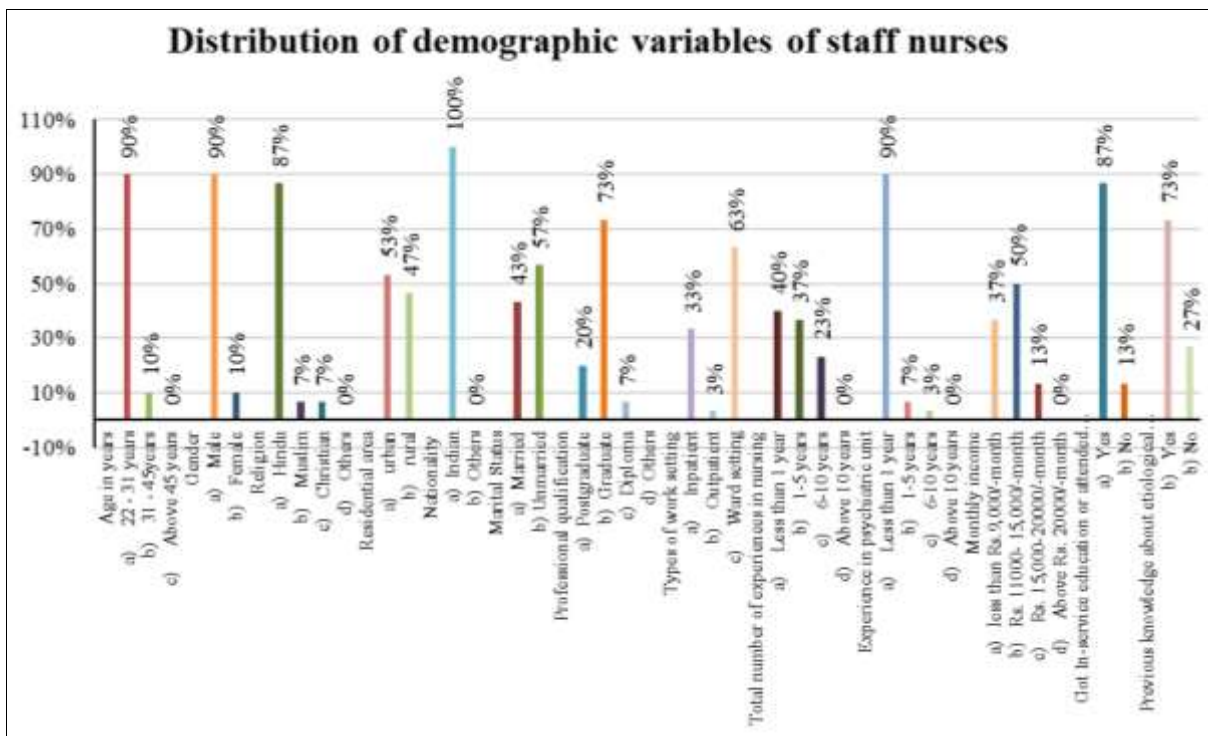


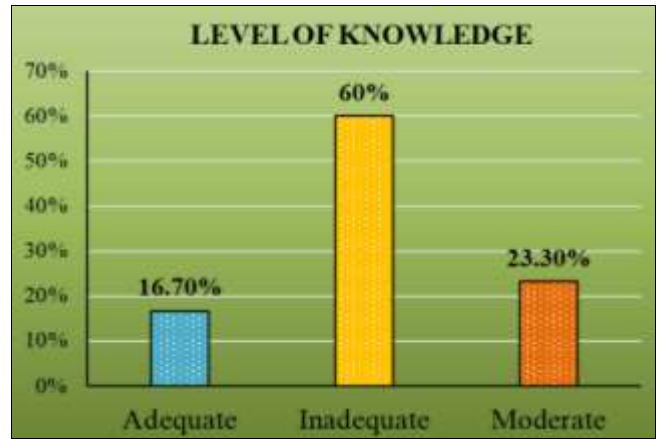
Fig 1: Bar diagram representing the percentage wise distribution of demographic variables of staff nurses

**Section B: Assessment of the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses**

**Table 2:** Distribution of the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses. N = 30

S.No	Level of Knowledge	Frequency (n)	Percentage %
1.	Adequate	5	16.7%
2.	Inadequate	18	60%
3.	Moderate	7	23.3%

The above table reveals the frequency and percentage-wise distribution of the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses. The finding shows that, majority 18 (60%) of them had inadequate knowledge, 5 (16.7%) of them had adequate knowledge and 7 (23.3%) of them had moderate knowledge among staff nurses.



**Fig 2:** Percentage wise distribution of level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses

**Section D**

**Table 3:** Association of the level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses with selected demographic variables N = 30

S. No	Demographic variables	LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE						X <sup>2</sup> value
		Adequate		Inadequate		Moderate		
1.	<b>Age in years</b>	N	%	N	%	N	%	X <sup>2</sup> = 7.143 p = 0.028 (NS)
	a) 22 - 31 years	3	10	18	60	6	20	
	b) 31 - 45years	2	7	0	0	1	3	
	c) Above 45 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2.	<b>Gender</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 0.723 p = 0.697 (NS)
	a) Male	0	0	2	7	1	3	
	b) Female	5	17	16	53	6	20	
3.	<b>Religion</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 3.077 p = 0.545 (NS)
	a) Hindu	5	17	14	47	7	23	
	b) Muslim	0	0	2	7	0	0	
	c) Christian	0	0	2	7	0	0	
	d) Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4.	<b>Residential area</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 1.103 p = 0.576 (NS)
	a) Urban	2	7	11	37	3	10	
	b) Rural	3	10	7	23	4	13	
5.	<b>Nationality</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 9.325 p = 0.316 (NS)
	a) Indian	5	17	18	60	7	23	
	b) Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6.	<b>Marital Status</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 1.842 p = 0.398 (NS)
	a) Married	3	10	6	20	4	13	
	b) Unmarried	2	7	12	40	3	10	
7.	<b>Professional qualification</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 2.263 p = 0.688 (NS)
	a) Postgraduate	1	3	4	13	1	3	
	b) Graduate	3	10	13	43	6	20	
	c) Diploma	1	3	1	3	0	0	
	d) Others							
8.	<b>Types of work setting</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 5.648 p = 0.227 (NS)
	a) Inpatient	2	7	6	20	2	7	
	b) Outpatient	1	3	0	0	0	0	
	c) Ward Setting	2	7	12	40	5	17	
9.	<b>Total number of experiences in nursing</b>							X = 4.974 p = 0.290 (NS)
	a) Less than 1 year	2	7	9	30	1	3	
	b) 1-5 years	1	3	7	23	3	10	
	c) 6-10 years	2	7	2	7	3	10	
	d) Above 10 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10.	<b>Experience in psychiatric unit</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 5.228 p = 0.265 (S)*
	a) Less than 1 year	4	13	17	17	6	20	
	b) 1-5 years	1	3	1	1	0	0	
	c) 6-10 years	0	0	0	0	1	3	
	d) Above 10 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	
11.	<b>Monthly income</b>							X <sup>2</sup> = 8.403 p = 0.078
	a) Less than	1	3	8	8	2	7	

	Rs.9,000/-month							(NS)
	b) Rs. 11000- 15,000/-month	4	13	9	9	2	7	
	c) Rs. 15,000-20000/-month	0	0	1	1	3	10	
	d) Above Rs. 20000/-month	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	<b>Got In-service education or attended conference or seminar</b>							
12.	a) Yes	4	13	15	15	7	23	X <sup>2</sup> = 1.442 p = 0.486
	b) No	1	3	3	3	0	0	(NS)
	<b>Previous knowledge about etiological factors of dissociative disorder</b>							
13.	a) Yes	4	13	12	12	6	20	X <sup>2</sup> = 1.071 p = 0.585
	b) No	1	3	6	6	1	3	(NS)

\* $p < 0.05$  - Significant;  $p < 0.01$  - Highly Significant

The above table shows that there is significance association between experience in psychiatric unit with level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses where  $p < 0.05$ .

There is no significance association between age, sex, residential area, religion, nationality, marital status, professional qualification, type of work setting, total number of experiences in nursing, monthly income, Got In-service education or attended conference or seminar and previous knowledge about etiological factors of dissociative disorder.

### Major finding of the study

The study reveals that, majority 18 (60%) of them had inadequate knowledge, 5 (16.7%) of them had adequate knowledge and 7 (23.3%) of them had moderate knowledge among staff nurses. The data shows that there is significance association between experience in psychiatric unit with level of knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders among staff nurses where  $p < 0.05$ .

### Conclusion

The present study assessed the knowledge regarding early signs of cervical cancer among women at selected community area in Puducherry “. The study findings concluded that majority of the staff nurses had inadequate knowledge regarding etiological factor of dissociative disorders.

### Recommendations

1. Same study can be conducted with large samples.
2. Same study to can be conducted among the general public.

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