



Summary

Nurses' role as regard to distract children is vital. They play a major role in supplying appropriate knowledge and allowing children to recognize all steps of procedure. Nurses explain the procedure in terms that children can understand and let them explore equipments before the procedure. Preparation promotes more active coping strategies and reduces distress.

The study aimed to assess the effectiveness of distraction on minimizing pain for children with cancer undergoing venipuncture through assessing the level pain intensity before & after the distraction for children undergoing venipuncture. Also, the study assessed the psychological reaction for children during venipuncture & the physiological reaction of children immediately after venipuncture.

The study is a quasi-experimental design, conducted at different in patient clinic affiliated to Benha Specialized Hospital and Naser Institute. The subjects consisted of 100 children who were randomly divided into two identical groups: 50 for the study group and 50 controls. The study group received the preparation, while the control group received only routine hospital care.

Data were collected using pre-designed questionnaire sheet which was developed by the researcher in simple Arabic language, after reviewing related literature and applied through interviewing the children to collect data about the following: socio-demographic data of children including child's name, age, sex, level of education and diagnosis.



- Behavior pain assessment scale adopted to assess level of pain intensity before and after the preparation for children.
- Child Assessment Sheet: It was designed to observe children's level of anxiety to assess physiological signs of children immediately after procedure of venipuncture and psychological signs of children during procedure of venipuncture.
- Distraction intervention will be implemented to the study group only and the control group will be exposed to the routine hospital nursing care. This includes toys, interactive books, puppets, bubbles, and magic wand, electronic games that will quickly engage and sustain a child's attention. Music, live or recorded, is also useful for distraction, counting, talking about favorite place and activities on TV show. The control group was exposed only to routine hospital nursing care for comparison.

The results of the study were as following:

- There was no statistically significant difference between studied and controlled group regarding to socio-demographic data of children.
- There was no statistically significant difference between studied and controlled group on admission for children regarding to FLACC Scale.
- There was a highly statistically significant difference between studied and controlled children after distraction regarding to pain intensity level.



- There was a highly statistically significant difference between studied and controlled children after venipuncture regarding to pain intensity level.
- There was a statistically significant difference between studied and controlled children regarding to physiological response.
- There was a highly statistically significant difference between studied and controlled children regarding to psychological response.
- It was concluded that preparation of children had a positive effect in decreasing pain intensity level, relieving signs of behavioral fear, increasing acceptance and co-operation of children undergoing venipuncture.

It was recommended that preparation should be routinely offered to children undergoing venipuncture at children's department by qualified nurses, and by using appropriate nursing intervention.