

Observational Study on Awareness of Medical Negligence in Ayurveda Practitioners of PCMC Area for Panchkarma Procedure

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Abstract

Introduction: The Medical profession is considered as most important profession all over the world. A Doctor is placed only second to almighty god. He enjoys a position of an Angel. The relationship between Doctor and Patient is based on trust and confidence. **Aim & Objectives:** Panchkarma is gaining more and more importance in present scenario, but this panchkarma treatment can be even life threatening and fatal if it is not done by a qualified person and in a proper way and using proper precautions. As patient safety is more important, thus there is a need for creating awareness among Ayurved practitioners about medical negligence related to panchkarma procedure and setting up some accreditation standards for panchkarama practice. **Methods:** In this study there is a survey among 100 Ayurved practitioners of PCMC area to evaluate awareness of medical negligence for Panchkarma procedure by circulating structured questionnaire in the form of closed ended questions through email. **Conclusion:** Ayurved practitioners of PCMC are aware about medical negligence due to recent incidents which happened in the society. While doing this study it has been observed that most of the practitioners are not aware about various acts related to medical profession.

Keywords: Medical Negligence, Panchkarma procedure, Survey study, Ayurved Practitioners (PCMC).

Introduction:

Professional negligence is defines as lack of reasonable care, skill or knowledge or willful negligence on the part of the doctor during practice of medical profession so as to lead to some damage to the patient, damage may be physical, mental or financial¹. There are mainly two types of Professional negligence 1. Civil Professional Negligence. 2. Criminal Professional Negligence. There are some preventive measures to avoid medical negligence during medical profession are explained as to prevent litigation, a doctor should bear in mind that doctor – patient relationship is an implied contract which is legally binding. There are two types of Doctor Patient Relationship 1. Therapeutic relationship 2. Formal relationship². For his part of

contract the doctor should provide Reasonable degree of skill, Reasonable degree of cure, Communicate with the patient one³.

Thus this study has been performed to assess the awareness of medical negligence related to panchakarma procedure among the Ayurveda practitioners.

- **Aim:**

To study awareness of medical negligence in Ayurveda practitioners of PCMC area for Panchkarma procedure.

- **Objectives:**

- Prepare the standard questionnaire.
- Survey in Ayurved practitioners.
- To collect the information about medical negligence from Ayurved practitioners.

- **Methodology**

The research carried out is applied type of research. This is the type of research, Which aims to solve for immediate problem facing society, and to create awareness of Medical negligence related to panchakarma procedure in Ayurveda practitioners.

A. Type of study design: Cross sectional.

B. Location of study: PCMC Area.

C. Method of selection:

a) **Inclusion criteria:** Ayurved practitioners of PCMC area with Panchkarma OPD or Hospital.

b) **Exclusion criteria:** General practitioners or Ayurved practitioners without panchkarma OPD or Hospital.

D. Research Methodology specified & explained for data collection:

- **Sample size:** 97 is the sample size by using Winpepi software.

To estimate a proportion

Confidence level = 95%

Acceptable difference = 0.1

Assumed proportion = 0.5

But for this study 100 sample size has been taken.

- **Sample Unit:** Ayurveda Practitioners of PCMC area with panchkarma practice.
- **Sampling Technique:** Simple Random Sampling.
- **Methods for data collection relevant to objectives:**

A Collection of Information about awareness of medical negligence related to Panchakarma procedure from Ayurveda practitioners through survey.

- **Data collection tool:**

The research data collection tool selected is structured questionnaire which includes survey. Questionnaire prepared is well structured and contain closed ended questions. Questionnaire has been formed on Google forms. Data of Ayurved practitioners with Panchkarma practice has been collected. Questionnaire link has been sent through whats app and email address. Responses have been received with their Email id.

- **Data Management and analysis procedure:** Microsoft Word, Microsoft SPSS and Microsoft Excel.

- **Observation and Results:**

Table No.1

Questions	Responses	
	Yes	No
1. Do you know about medical negligence?	91%	9%
2. Do you know about various acts related to medical profession?	48%	52%
3. Do you know about that consumer protection act 1986 is applicable to Ayurveda practitioners or panchkarma practitioners?	61%	39%
4. Do you maintain or keep all the patient’s OPD AND IPD records?	90%	10%
5. Do you take written informed consent before panchkarma procedure?	75%	25%
6. Do you take patients fitness for panchkarma before doing the procedure?	58%	42%
7. Do you take patients past history related to medical and surgical illness?	99%	01%
8. Do you suggest for second opinion as per requirement?	90%	10%
9. Do you advise Do’s and Don’ts list to the patient before starting panchkarma procedure?	98%	02%
10. Do you observe the patients’ health status during panchkarma procedure?	99%	01%
11. .Do you observe the patients’ health status after panchkarma	98%	02%

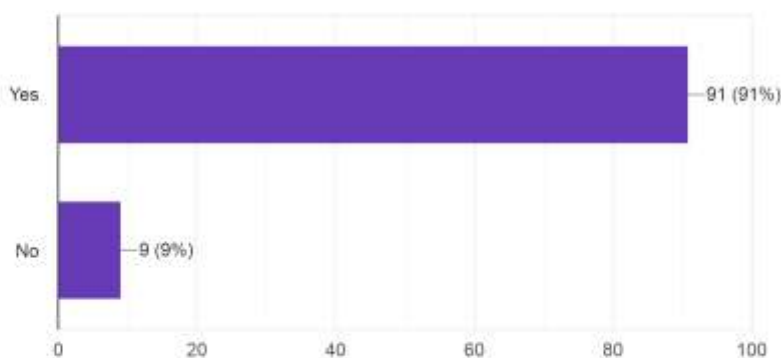
procedure?		
12. Do you give instructions to your patients to consult the respective doctor in any emergency conditions after panchkarma procedure?	89%	11%
12. Are you aware of biomedical waste management of panchkarma procedure?	85%	15%

Following are some graphical presentation of 6 questions.

Graph No 1. (Question no 1)

Do you know about medical negligence?

100 responses



Graph No 2. (Question No 2)

Do you know about various acts related to medical profession?

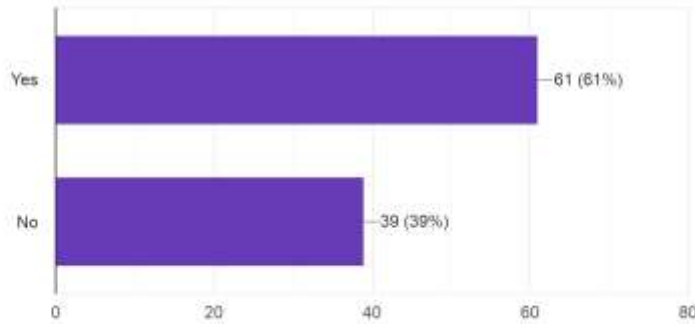
100 responses



Graph No 3. (Question No 3)

Do You know that Consumer Protection Act 1986 is applicable to Ayurveda practitioners or Panchkarma practitioners

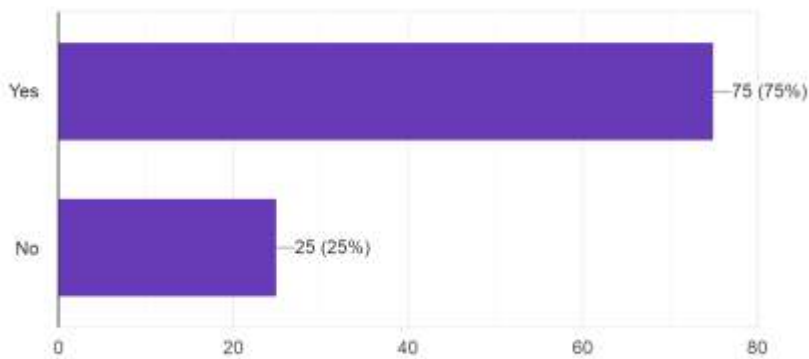
100 responses



Graph No 4. (Question No 5)

Do you take written informed consent before Panchkarma procedure?

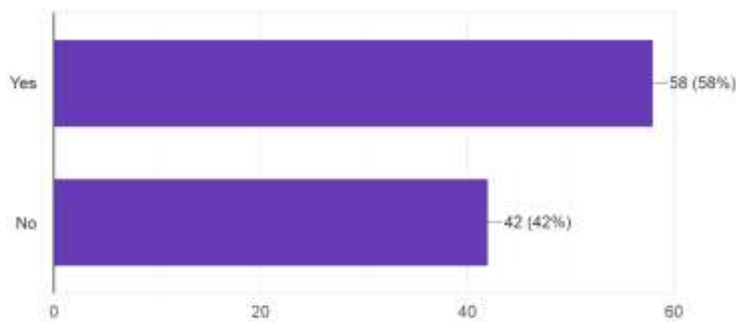
100 responses



Graph No 5. (Question No 6)

Do you take patient's fitness for Panchkarma before doing the procedure?

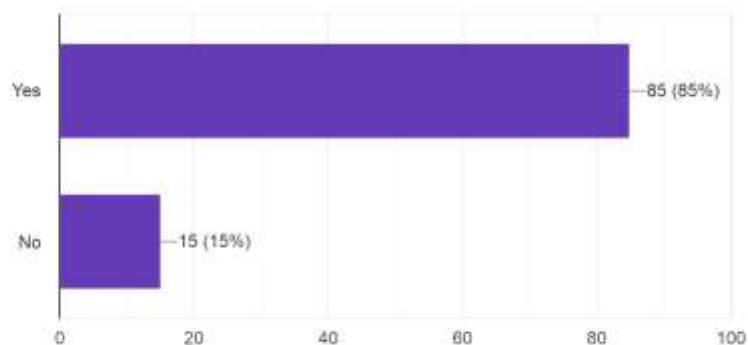
100 responses



Graph No 6. (Question No 12)

Are you aware of biomedical waste management of Panchkarma procedure?

100 responses



Discussion:

Most of the Ayurved practitioners of PCMC area are aware about medical negligence and topics related to it. There is 91% awareness about knowledge of medical negligence. 48% awareness about various acts related to medical profession. 60% Ayurveda practitioners are aware that Consumer protection act 1986 is applicable for Ayurveda practitioners. 90% Ayurveda practitioners have maintain their OPD IPD record, 75% Ayurveda Practitioners are taking the written informed consent before Panchkarma procedure. 58% Ayurveda Practitioners are taking patients fitness before panchkarma procedure. 99% Ayurveda Practitioners are taking the patient’s past history related medical and surgical illness. 90% Ayurveda Practitioners are in favor to suggest for second opinion as per requirement. 98% Ayurveda Practitioners advice do’s and don’ts list to patient. 99% Ayurveda Practitioners are observing health status during Panchakarma procedure and 98% observing after procedure. 89% Ayurveda Practitioners are in favor to give instructions to the patient to consult the respective doctor in emergency condition. 85% Ayurveda Practitioners are aware about biomedical waste management for Panchakarma procedure.

There is a lack of awareness about various acts related to medical profession and consumer protection act which is applicable for Ayurved practitioners and Panchakarma practice. There is a need to ensure practitioners to take fitness of the patient before doing Panchkarma procedure.

There is need of adequate knowledge about medical law and its negligence among doctors.⁴ Similarly general population in society have a good knowledge about medical negligence due to recent incidents but there is need of creating a true knowledge about medical negligence and its laws among

general population and doctors also.⁵ Doctors are very much aware about medical negligence but there is need to update their knowledge.⁶

There are similar study has been done at Vadodara, Knowledge and Awareness among interns and residents about medical law and negligence in a medical college in Vadodara(A Questionnaire Study) shows that there is lack of awareness about various acts related to medical profession and about consumer protection act⁷.

This awareness study has been successfully completed and it will be very much beneficial in future for Ayurvedic practitioners with NABH Accreditation guidelines.⁸

Conclusion:

Ayurved practitioners of PCMC are aware about medical negligence due to recent incidents which happened in the society. While doing this study it has been observed that most of the practitioners are not aware about various acts related to medical profession. Fitness before panchkarma should be taken from M.D (Kaychikitsa or Panchakarma). Most of the practitioners have Modern emergency facilities in their clinic or hospital, where as some have Ayurvedic Emergency drugs in their OPD. There is a need to increase an awareness about OPD IPD record duration, Written Informed consent for Panchakarma procedure, fitness before Panchakarma procedure and implementation of these points in our practice.

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