

## Assessment of Factors Contributing to Phlebitis among the Patients admitted in Medical-Surgical Units of BPKIHS

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**Background and Objectives:** Phlebitis, an inflammation of the tunica intima of vein by mechanical, chemical or bacterial sources, is the main local complication associated with peripheral intravenous cannula and, occurs between 3.7% and 67.24% of patients. It causes significant pain; discomfort; failure and interruption to prescribed therapy; and requirement for new cannula insertion with associated increased equipment costs and staff time. Cannula related bacterial sepsis can jeopardize patient's life. The main aims of this study are to assess the contributing factors of phlebitis among admitted patients in Medical-Surgical Units of BPKIHS and to find out the association between selected variables and phlebitis.

**Materials and Methods:** Descriptive cross-sectional design was adopted to conduct the study among 120 admitted patients with cannula having phlebitis in Medical-Surgical Units of BPKIHS. Data was collected from December to January 2016 for 4 weeks using interview questionnaire and observation checklist and later analyzed using descriptive (mean and standard deviation) and inferential (Chi-Square Test) statistics using SPSS 16 version.

**Results:** Mostly (45.8%) moderate phlebitis was observed followed by mild (39.2%) and severe (15%) in the subjects. Most of the subjects (47.5%) were between age group 30-60 years with more than 7 days of hospitalization (80.8%). Most of them had 20G cannula (76.7%); inserted in wrist (49.2%); first insertion (33.3%); successful in first attempt (83.3%); in ward (78.3%); by Nurses (97.5%); under antibiotics (90.8%) and intermittent infusion (55.8%). Significant association was found between age, Residence, ethnicity, body weight and phlebitis.

**Conclusion:** Considerable moderate and severe phlebitis in the study subjects are crucial findings. It can be concluded that phlebitis is independent of cannula and infusion related contributing factors.

**Keywords:** Contributing factors, Phlebitis, Patient