

Emergency Department Nursing Competency for Pediatric Patients with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

Madeline Ohlms, Lindsey Garfield, PhD, RN.

Background

- ❖ Mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) brings nearly half a million pediatric patients to the emergency room each year.
- ❖ Currently, nurses report a lack of confidence and knowledge in caring for patients with mTBI.
- ❖ The CDC published a set of comprehensive guidelines on the assessment, diagnosis, and management of pediatric mTBI patients in 2018.
- ❖ It is unclear if emergency department nurses are aware of the new guidelines or utilizing them.

CDC'S GUIDELINE ON THE
Diagnosis and Management of Mild
Traumatic Brain Injury Among Children



25 YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH EXAMINED

19 SETS OF CLINICAL
RECOMMENDATIONS
CREATED



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Objectives

- ❖ The purpose of this evidence-based project is to determine if emergency department nurses have adequate knowledge of the CDC pediatric mTBI 2018 guidelines.

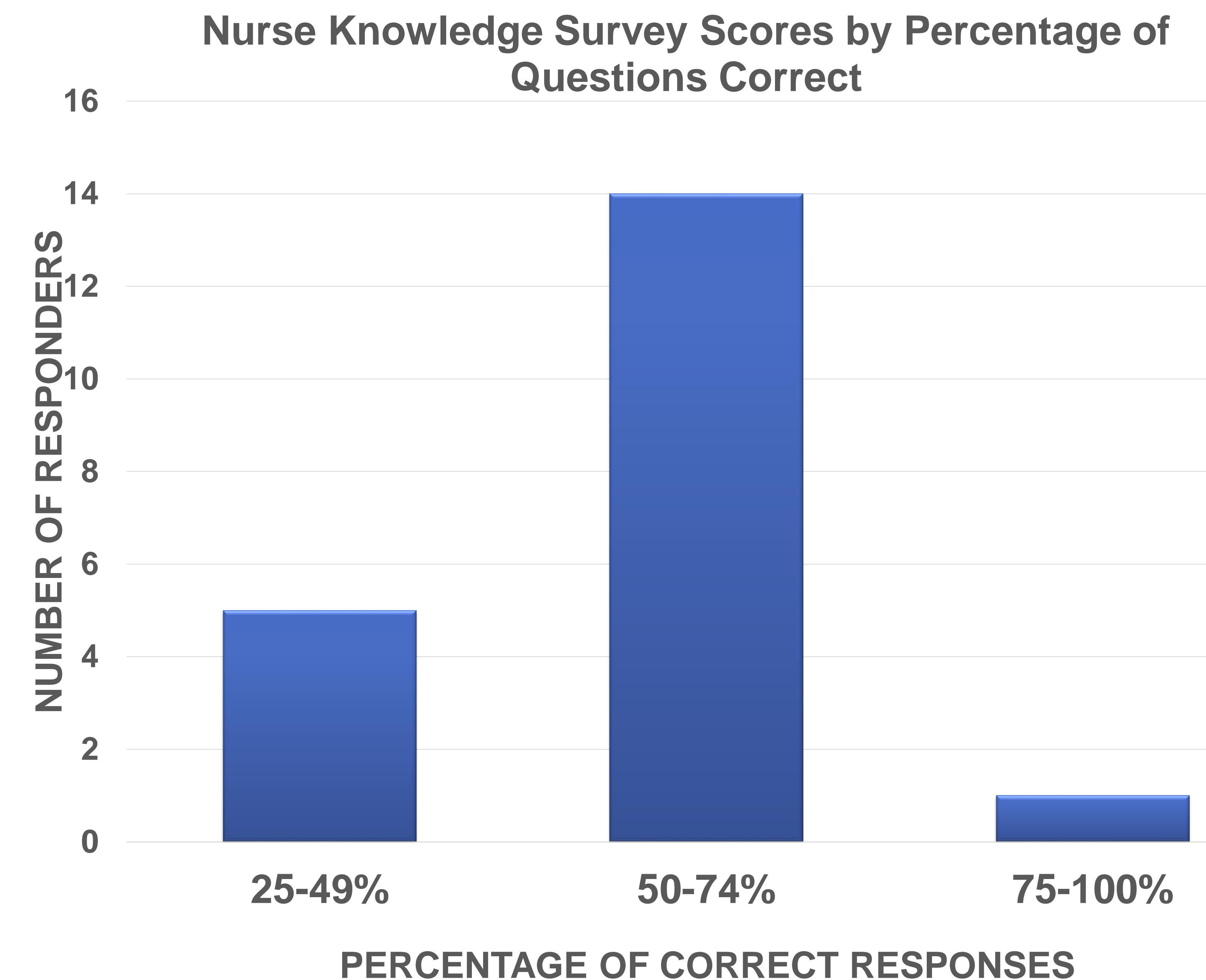
Project Plan

- ❖ Nurse participants completed a knowledge questionnaire based on the 2018 CDC Pediatric mTBI guidelines.
- ❖ Nurse participants also completed a demographic questionnaire including age, years in the nursing profession, and experience with pediatric mTBI patients.
- ❖ After the knowledge assessment, nurses attended an inservice on the 2018 CDC pediatric mTBI guidelines including:
 - ❖ CDC's definition of mTBI
 - ❖ Recommendations related to use of imaging, validated/age-appropriate symptom scales in combination with cognitive testing as the strongest predictors of mTBI outcome
 - ❖ Appropriate counseling regarding return to non-sports activities, and
 - ❖ Risk factors for recovery including medical history, injury characteristics, and patient demographics.

Results

- ❖ Twenty emergency department nurses completed the knowledge assessment.
- ❖ The average score was 57% with a minimum score of 27% and a maximum score of 80%.
- ❖ Only 1 emergency room nurse scored above 74%, representing a majority do not have adequate knowledge to apply the CDC pediatric mTBI 2018 guidelines.

Results



Evaluation and Practice Implications

- ❖ Emergency room nurses do not have adequate knowledge of pediatric mTBI guidelines.
- ❖ Increased continuing education on new evidenced based guidelines needs to be systematic.
- ❖ Continuing education on new evidenced based guidelines will improve nurse knowledge and improve patient nursing care.

Bibliography

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