

Assessment of Patient Safety Culture Among Healthcare Workers in the Primary Care of Bahrain

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: This study was conducted to assess patient safety (PS) culture in primary health care (PHC) in Bahrain, identify strengths and areas for improvement and create patient safety awareness among primary health care professionals.

Design: Descriptive cross-sectional study.

Method: A validated self-administered questionnaire, the Medical Office Survey on Patient Safety (MOSOPS), developed by the Agency of Healthcare Research (AHRQ), was distributed online to all occupational categories in 27 primary healthcare centres (PHCs) in Bahrain.

Results: The average score of the 10 studied composites was 72.5%. The overall perception of patient safety and quality was positive, with respondents having a mean score of 71.2 ± 10.1 . The highest positive scores were for teamwork (82.9%), patient care tracking and follow-up (80.4%), and organisational learning (77.7%). The lowest score was for work pressure and pace (46.8%), with 64.9% of the participants feeling rushed when taking care of patients, and 76.3% having too many patients to handle.

Conclusion: Patient safety culture (PSC) in primary care in Bahrain is generally positive. It is important to ensure that legislation and regulations are introduced to encourage healthcare organisations to implement patient safety reporting systems, which will help identify risks in patients and help them learn from their mistakes. The safety culture should be assessed regularly to evaluate the effectiveness of patient safety programs and interventions.

Keywords: Patient safety, Primary healthcare, Bahrain.

Bahrain Med Bull 2024; 46 (2): 1994 - 2001

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