



[ORIGINAL ARTICLE]

Purposes of participation in Immediate Stroke Life Support (ISLS) by profession

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ABSTRACT

【Introduction】 The objective of the present study was to conduct. Immediate Stroke Life Support (ISLS) with the aim of promoting the knowledge of standard treatment procedures in acute stroke care. Because the professions of participants and their purposes of participation varied greatly, the purpose of participating in ISLS were elucidated for each profession.

【Methods】 Subjects were a total of 122 individuals participating in ISLS in Yokohama, specifically 45 doctors, 66 nurses, and 11 emergency medical technicians (EMT). A questionnaire survey including multiple-choice and written responses was conducted following conclusion of ISLS, and the purpose of participation was analyzed for each profession based on the responses.

【Results】 For all professions, the purposes of participation were “necessary for everyday duties”, “skill improvement”, and “other”. Regarding the degree of achievement of the purpose of participation, over 97% of participants felt they were capable of implementing ISLS, with no differences among professions.

【Discussion】 These findings reaffirmed that participants participated in ISLS because they recognized the need to provide acute stroke care. ISLS was also effectively used for improving skills. The present findings indicate that ISLS is useful for achieving the purpose of participation.

1. Introduction

Immediate Stroke Life Support (hereinafter referred to as “ISLS”)¹⁾, which was developed by the Japanese Association for Acute Medicine and the Japanese Congress on Neurological Emergencies in 2006 for the purpose of acquiring standard medical procedures in care of acute stroke syndromes, has been taught in courses held throughout Japan. It can be assumed that backgrounds and purposes of participants are diversified since many participants are health care providers from various fields. It is also useful to understand that taking an ISLS course enhances the learning effect regardless of types of professions²⁾ and to understand activities and roles of various professions in treating acute stroke syndromes to promote team-

based medicine³⁾. Based on the above, we examined the purpose of taking the ISLS course segregated by profession.

2. Materials and Methods

A post-course survey with written and short answer questions was conducted to 122 subjects who took part in the 3rd to 11th Yokohama ISLS courses held from August 2008 to October 2011, and their answers were analyzed by profession type. As an ethical consideration, the purpose of the research was explained to the participants, and they agreed to participate in the research by answering the survey. In consideration of protecting the privacy of the participants, their personal information was coded so that they could not be identified.

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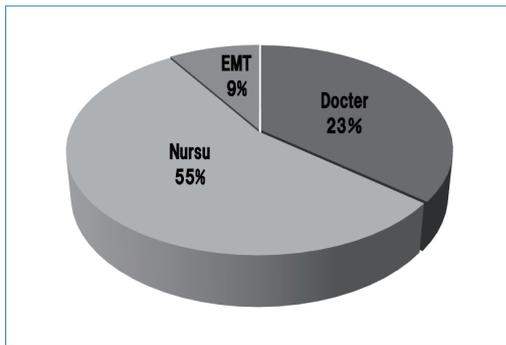


Fig.1 Breakdown of profession

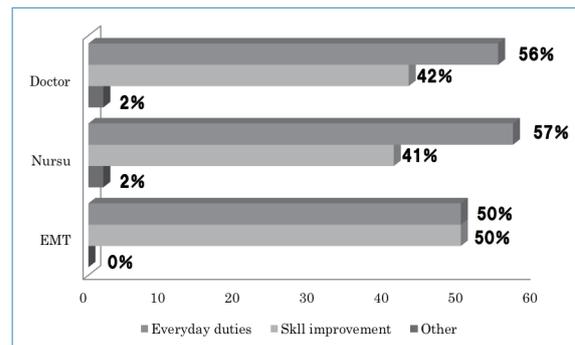


Fig.2 Purposes of participation

3. Results

1) Overview of Study Subjects

The subjects were 120 people who answered the survey out of 122 course participants. The subjects included 43 physicians (36%), 66 nurses (55%), and 11 paramedics (9%) (Figure 1).

2) Purpose of Participating in the Course

In all professions, the subjects chose “Necessary for daily work” 56%, “To improve my own skills” 42%, or “Other” 2% as a reason for participating. Sorted by profession, physicians answered “Necessary for daily work” 54%, “To improve my own skills” 44%, and “Other” 2%. Nurses chose “Necessary for daily work” 57%, “To improve my own skills” 44%, and “Other” 2%. For paramedics, “Necessary for daily work” 50% and “To improve my own skill” 50% were selected (Figure 2).

3) Achievement Level of the Purpose of Participating

97% of the subjects answered that they achieved their goal for taking the course. Sorted by profession, 98% of physicians, 100% of nurses and 91% of paramedics agreed that they achieved their goal. On the other hand, 2% of physicians and 9% of paramedics said they did not achieve their goal (Figure 3).

4. Discussion

Taking an ISLS course is aimed at mastering it as a standardized method of diagnosis and treatment of strokes⁴. It is deemed that “Necessary for daily work” has been selected the most in all professions because awareness can be raised toward their daily scene of medical treatment, nursing support and care activities through the course in a sense that it is about confirmation of knowledge for physicians, aspect of observation for nurses, and assessment of severity,

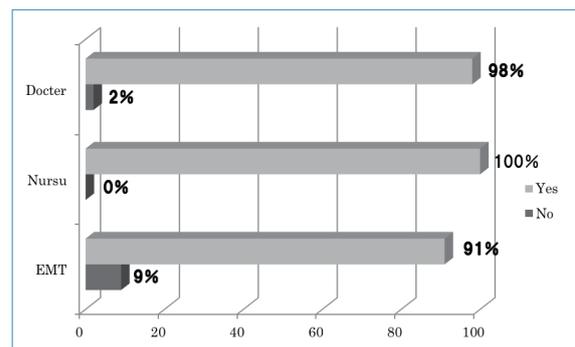


Fig.3 Goal attainment level

urgency and treatment indication. In addition, it seems that “To improve my own skills” is the second most chosen in all professions as improvement of the knowledge and skills in assessing the early stages of stroke affects improvement of the practice. Further, for “Other” reasons, physicians answered to create a hospital system, and nurses answered to learn a way of education. This is considered to improve the quality of ongoing diagnosis of the early stages of strokes in medical facilities. From these results, the purpose of participating among professions was mostly the same because they aimed to utilize what they learned in the systematized course for the medical team to diagnose the early stages of strokes in clinical settings. Also, when constructing a treatment system, it first starts with acquiring knowledge, then the process is required to observe procedures, which calls for improved skills of individuals as well as organizations. An established system will then lead to patients’ satisfaction. It was also revealed that these purposes of taking this course were included in each stage of a treatment system⁵.

Secondly, although the degree of achievement for participating somewhat differs depending on

professions, 97% of the participants answered they achieved it. It was deemed that they were able to easily imagine practical scenarios regardless of their professions since the content of the course was based on clinical scenes. As a purpose of an educational simulation, the assessment based on expert knowledge and skills can be conducted, and appropriate decisions can be made to play a part of a medical team⁶⁾. This indicates that their goal was met when their clinical decision-making skills were improved through the course. On the other hand, there are those who did not accomplish their goal, so it is necessary to check attendees' purposes before the course begins and to have facilitators help them achieve their goals in the future.

From the above, it has become obvious that the course, which contained systematized care for acute stroke syndromes, was useful for fulfilling the purpose of participating.

5. Conclusions

In order to improve the quality of medical care for acute stroke syndromes as an objective for taking the ISLS course, it became apparent that the course was taken corresponding to the professional roles and internal and external environment of medical facilities. Because of its systematized course content, 97% of the participants agreed that their purpose of participating in the course was met. However, the results differed slightly depending on their professions.

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要 旨

職種別の ISLS 受講目的について

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【背景と目的】脳卒中急性期医療における標準的な診療手順を修得することを目的として神経救急コース（以下 ISLS とする）が開催されている。受講生の職種や受講目的は多種多様であるため、職種別における ISLS コースを受講する目的について明らかにした。

【方法】横浜 ISLS コースを受講した医師 45 名、看護師 66 名、救命士 11 名の計 122 名に対して、ISLS コース終了後に短答式及び記述式回答のアンケートを実施、回答内容より職種別に受講目的について分析した。

【結果】受講目的は、全職種を通じて『日々の業務に必要である』『スキルアップのため』『その他』であった。受講目的の達成度は、95%以上の受講生が ISLS を実践出来ると捉え職種間での差はなかった。

【考察と結論】ISLS の受講目的として、脳卒中急性期医療の必要性を感じ受講を通じて再認識された。またスキルアップの方法として効果的に用いられていた。受講目的を達成するために有用であったことが明らかになった。

キーワード：ISLS, 受講目的, シミュレーショントレーニング

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