Pain is one of the major physical and psychological stressors for children. The preschool age children like the rest of humanity can experience pain. Children's pain management has been found to be problematic and in need of improvement. The aim of the study was to appraise pain perception among nurses who are working with hospitalized preschool age children at Cairo University Pediatric Hospital and El Monira Pediatric Hospital. A descriptive design was utilized in this study. A total sample was 100 nurses who had worked in medicine units in pediatric hospitals at the time of collecting data. Two tools were used to collect the required data, the structured questionnaire sheet which included pertinent data regarding the socio-demographic characteristics of nurses and their knowledge about pain in hospitalized preschool age child. The second tool was pain perception scale. The study results revealed that nearly one fifth of nurses (22%) had good level of knowledge, nurses who had fair and poor level of knowledge about pain in children were 34% and 44% respectively. Less than half of nurses (48%) had acceptable level of perception, 44% had poor level, and only 8% had high level of perception. It was obviously that, there was a statistical significant positive correlation between nurses' knowledge and perception regarding pain in preschool aged children. The present study recommended that, periodic and continues in services training programs for nurses about pain assessment and management should be done, based on the latest research findings and innovations in the area of pediatric pain.

Key words: Appraisal, Pain Perception, Nurses, Hospitalized Preschool Age Children