

A Descriptive Study to Assess the Knowledge of Mothers Regarding Communicable Diseases among Infant in Selected Rural Area of Village Badala, Kharar.

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Abstract: The present study has been undertaken to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding communicable diseases among infants in selected rural areas of village Badala, Kharar. Sample consists of a subset of a population selected to participate in a research study. The sample for the present study consists of 80 infant's mother of selected rural area of village Badala in Kharar. Purposive sampling technique has been used in selecting rural area in Kharar. In the present study, the structured questionnaire was selected and developed on selected aspects of communicable disease. The finding shows that the mean knowledge score of respondents found to be highest in the (69.7%) followed by general information of influenza diseases (58.12%), Pulmonary Tuberculosis (46.12 %), and diarrhoea (50.4 %). However, the over all mean knowledge score found to be 52.82% among participants on communicable diseases and result reveal a significant association between Age, occupation, income, education and knowledge level of Respondents ($P < 0.05$.) Non significant association between religion, language and knowledge level ($P > 0.05$) of communicable disease.

Key words: knowledge of mother, communicable diseases among infants

Date of Submission: 06-12-2019

Date of Acceptance: 23-12-2019

I. Introduction

"Each child is unique, perceptual and intuitive approach is necessary to understand and facilitate the therapeutic process"

- Susan Garofolo

Children are the future of every country and all societies strive to ensure their health and safety Since India's independence, continuous efforts have been made to improve the status of children. Children are naturally curious. As soon as they are mobile, begin to explore their surroundings and play with new objects, at the same time though, they come into contact with objects that can cause severe injuries playing with fire or touching hot objects can result in burns.

Communicable diseases in endemic or epidemic form have been taking a very heavy toll of human lives throughout history. Their incidence has reduced considerable due to better understanding of their epidemiological features, availability of specific chemotherapeutic agents and application of effective methods of prevention and control.

Health of the children has been considered as the vital importance to all societies because the children are the basic resources for the future of human kind. Swine Flu-is a respiratory tract infection from the hogs. This kind of virus can kill the human race. This infection is a worldwide virus outbreak. Swine flu is otherwise called as Influenza. . The deadliest pandemic in recorded history occurred in 1918 toward the end of the First World War.

Tuberculosis is a bacterial infection caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* .Transmitted through respiratory droplets, tuberculosis is highly contagious. According to WHO estimates, TB kills approximately 40,000 children every year. And two million people globally per annum.

Tuberculosis is a major global public health problem with 8 million new cases of pulmonary T.B. in the world per year and 2.89 million deaths.

Diarrhoea is usually defined as passage of 3 or more loose watery stool in a 24 hour period, loose stool being one that would take the shape of a container. Diarrhoea is one of the most common ailment in young children.

Health workers have an important role to play in the control of these diseases by applying effective and efficient management, prevention and control measures. Health workers need to be equipped with capacity to target communicable diseases for eradication

II. Review Of Literature

A study conducted (on 2010 in Mumbai), to test the effectiveness of teaching programme on vaccination of swine flu to the mothers attending the hospital with their children. This study contained sample size of 50 mothers; a specially designed interview sheet were used to compile the necessary data. One group pre-test post-test design was used for the study. Post test was given after 6 days of pre-test. It is found that teaching programme was effective in improving the knowledge of mothers as evidenced by the scores of the pre-test and post test. The post test mean value (26.68) was higher than the pre-test value (16.14), the mean difference between pre-test and post test was (10.53) and the obtained paired t' value is (28.30) which was highly significant at (p<0.01) level. The study concluded that most of the mothers gained adequate knowledge on vaccination of swine flu 34.

An experimental study was conducted to assess the mother's beliefs and practices regarding prevention and management of diarrhoeal diseases in 2 different villages in Raipur Rani block of Haryana. The sample of the study was selected by random sampling method and the sample size was 48 that are included 48 mothers with atleast one child aged less than 2 years living in 2 villages in Raipur Rani Block. Data was collected by using a structured interview schedule. The findings emphasize the need to focus on preventive measures by educating the public about causes and methods of diarrhoea prevention while considering the existing culture.⁵⁵

III. Material And Methods

The present study has been undertaken to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding communicable diseases among infant. The purpose of this section is to communicate with the readers what the investigators did to solve the research problem or to answer the research questions. This section in the research report often tells the readers about the major methodological decision.

The study was conducted in rural areas village Badala, in Kharar. The selection of this area was done on the basis of feasibility of conducting study and availability of sample. This village has good physical set up for collecting the samples. Purposive sampling technique has been used in selecting village Badala, in Kharar. The research design selected for this study is non experimental descriptive research design is used in the study. The sample of the study consists of 80 infant's mother's at selected village Badala.

In the present study the structured questionnaire was selected and developed on selected aspects of communicable disease among infants. In the present study, the structured questionnaires, consists of items related to knowledge on communicable disease under 5 areas namely, General information (6 statements) Influenza (8 statements) Tuberculosis (16 statements) Diarrhea (15 statements). Scoring was assigned to each of the statement as 'one' for correct response and 'Zero' for wrong response with minimum and maximum score of 0-40. The tool for the present study was developed by the investigator based on the objective, review of related literature and in consultation with the experts in the field of Community Health Nursing, the tool for data collection has been classified into two sections i.e. Section-I, Section-II

The interview schedule was constructed in two parts with a total number of items 45.

Section I: Includes items related to the demographic variables of the respondents about Age, Type of Family, Educational Status, Occupation, Family Income per month, and sources of health information.

Section II: Consists of items related to knowledge on communicable disease Under 5 areas namely. General information (6 statements) Influenza (8 statements) Tuberculosis (16 statements) Diarrhoea (15 statements). Scoring was assigned to each of the statement as 'one' for correct response and 'Zero' for wrong response with minimum and maximum score of 0-40.

The tool has been validated after consultation with experts from the field of Community Health Nursing; Minor Modifications were made on the basis of recommendations, suggestions of Experts. After consulting guide, and statistician, Final tool was reframed; Later the tool was edited by English Language Experts and translated into Punjabi and Hindi by Language Experts without changing the meaning of the tool. It was found to be valid and suitable for women.

The reliability of the tool was established by using split half technique which measure the co-efficient of internal consistency and stability. The reliability of the split half test was found by using Karl Pearson Correlation by deviation method. Spearman Brown's Formula was used to find out the reliability of the full test. The reliability co-efficient of correlation of the knowledge tool was found to be 0.98 and it was found to be highly reliable.

IV. Results

TABLE-1
Aspect wise Mean Knowledge related to communicable disease

N = 80

	Knowledge Aspects	State-ments	Max. Score	Range score	Knowledge Score		
					Mean	Mean (%)	SD (%)
I	General Information	6	6	0-6	4.18	69.7	1.45
II	Influenza	8	8	0-8	4.65	58.12	1.96
III	Tuberculosis	16	16	0-13	7.38	46.12	2.97
IV	Diarrhoea	15	15	1-12	7.56	50.4	2.42
	Total	45	45	7-35	23.77	52.82	8.80

Table-1 indicates the aspect wise respondents mean knowledge about Communicable diseases. The result shows that the mean knowledge of respondents found to be highest in the (69.7%) followed by general information of influenza diseases (58.12%), Pulmonary Tuberculosis (46.12 %), and diarrhoea (50.4 %). However, the over all mean knowledge score found to be 52.82% among participants on communicable disease.

V. Discussion

The present study was intended to assess knowledge of women regarding communicable diseases. In order to achieve the objective of the study a descriptive Survey approach was adopted. Purposive sampling techniques were used to select the sample. The data was collected from 80 women at village Badala, Kharar, Punjab. The findings were discussed under the demographic characteristics and knowledge.

- Demographic characteristics of the sample.
- To assess the knowledge of mother regarding communicable diseases among infant.

Demographic characteristics of the sample

Distribution of the sample according to age revealed that majority of the women (95.3%) were in the age group of 18-22 years. In relation to education status of women related that majority of the women (88 %) were high school. religion wise analysis shows that most of the women (90 %) were house wives. Distributions of sample according to type of family, most of the women (90 %) belongs to nuclear family. Distribution of respondents according to Family Income, majority of the women (93 %) had the family income between Rs. below Rs. 5,000. In relation to numbers of member in the family revealed that majority of the women (27 %) had none child. Distribution of respondents (60 %) got health information through health personnel

To assess the knowledge of mothers regarding communicable disease

The findings of the study revealed that knowledge of women (17.64 %) was found inadequate about communicable disease, but the majority of 69.7 % of the women were aware of prevention and follow up of communicable disease. Similarly influenza 58.12%, pulmonary tuberculosis in 46.12 %, diarrhea 50.4 %. The present study results reveals that 85 percent of the women were aware of communicable disease. These findings are consistent with the findings of Saha. S. K. (2000), Nielson. (2000). This study reveals that more than 50 percent of the mothers were aware of management of communicable disease.

Major findings related to association between knowledge levels of respondents with demographic:

Results reveal a significant association between Age, occupation, income, education and knowledge level of Respondents ($P < 0.05$) Non significant association between religion and language and knowledge level ($P > 0.05$) of communicable disease.

VI. Conclusion

This study was conducted to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding communicable diseases in selected area of village Badala, Kharar, Punjab. In this study descriptive survey design was used by taking 80 infants mothers through purposive sampling technique at Badala, Kharar. The data were collected by using self prepared structured questionnaire consisting of knowledge on communicable disease Under 5 areas namely. General information (6 statements) Influenza (8 statements) Tuberculosis (16 statements) Diarrhea (15 statements). Scoring was assigned to each of the statement as 'one' for correct response and 'Zero' for wrong

response with minimum and maximum score of 0-40. Data were developed and interpreted by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Based on the study results, the following conclusions were made:

- Women had some inadequate knowledge regarding Communicable disease.
- Overall knowledge of women was found to be 85 percent.
- There was observed association between knowledge and age.
- There was observed association between knowledge and education.
- There was observed association between knowledge and occupation.
- There was observed association between knowledge and family income.

Implications:

The findings of the study have implications in various areas of nursing i.e., nursing practice, nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.

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Mrs. Vimal Taneja. "A Descriptive Study to Assess the Knowledge of Mothers Regarding Communicable Diseases among Infant in Selected Rural Area of Village Badala, Kharar. " IOSR Journal of Nursing and Health Science (IOSR-JNHS), vol. 8, no.06 , 2019, pp. 70-73.