

Knowledge Regarding dental Hygiene among Parents of Children in Selected Community area, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

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Abstract

Design: Descriptive research design was used to assess the association between knowledge and selected demographic variables such as age, gender and religion. *Subjects:* Parents of children age three to twelve years residing in lower Jollygrant, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. *Method:* systematic random sampling technique was used to select the sample for the study. *Data analysis:* The obtained data was analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation was used to assess the association between knowledge and socio demographic variables. The level of association was set at ≥ 0.005 . *Result:* The result shows that 51% of mothers had a very good knowledge, 45% had good knowledge, 4% had fair knowledge. *Conclusion:* The result shows that found that the knowledge of mothers regarding dental hygiene had been associated with income. So it is important to understand various factors that influence dental hygiene and encourage them to maintain dental hygiene of their children.

Keywords: Assess; Community; Dental Hygiene; Knowledge; Parents of Children.

Introduction

Healthy children can become healthy citizen constituting a healthy nation. Healthy children are also successful learners. Children represent about 25% of total population in India, so it indicates that health care of the children can contribute to the overall health status of the country.

Dental health is the absence of disease and the optimal functioning of the teeth in a manner which helps to preserve high level of self esteem. Dental hygiene is the practice of keeping the mouth clean by brushing and flossing to prevent tooth decay and gum disease.

The parents with oral health knowledge are more likely to positively influence their children's oral health. The children who have poor oral habit are more likely to have early childhood caries and may further develop the dental problem such

dental caries, dental pain and other oral infection which, may effect their growth and development. Most parents tend to ignore their children's dental problems as the primary teeth will be replaced by permanent teeth and also because they are unaware of the cause of early childhood caries and their treatment.

One basic myth that has to be eradicated from the mind of majority of parents is that milk teeth are not important because they will replace by another set of teeth later. Since the molars erupt when deciduous teeth are still present, very often they suffer the consequences of negligency. At the global level, marked changes in dental disease pattern has been observed over the past decades. The severity of children have declined substantially in those countries and trends parallel the implementation of preventive dental care programmers and changing in living conditions and lifestyles.

All this survey reveals that dental hygiene is one of the most important aspect of our health. So the researcher were motivated and felt the need to conduct the study on this particular topic as the because previously no one has conducted the study to assess the knowledge regarding dental hygiene of parents of the pre schoolers children in selected area of Dehradun, Uttarakhand and researchers strongly believes that proper knowledge about dental hygiene could reduce the prevalence of dental caries in children.

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Objectives

- To determine the knowledge regarding the dental hygiene among parents of children.
- To determine association between knowledge and socio demographic variables.

Assumptions

- Subject will provide their honest responses for items of questionnaires.
- Sample will be true representation of the population

Hypothesis

H1- There would be significant association between knowledge of parents of children regarding dental hygiene and selected demographic variable.

Research Methodology

Research approach: The research approach adopted in the study was Quantitative Survey Approach.

Research design: Descriptive research design was used to assess the association between knowledge and selected demographic variables such as age, gender, religion.

Study variables: Knowledge regarding dental hygiene among parents of children.

Extraneous variables

This refers to socio demographic variables such as age, gender, education status, occupation, income, type of family, no. of children, awareness regarding dental hygiene. The study was conducted in selected community area of Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The target population for the study was the parents of children. In order to assess knowledge regarding dental hygiene, systematic random sampling technique was used.

Sampling criteria

Inclusion criteria: Parents who were:

- Residing in selected community area whose children's age lies between three to twelve years.

Exclusion criteria: Parents who were not:

- Willing to participate
- Present at the time of data collection

Development and description of tools

Section A: Socio demographic proforma.

Section B: Structured knowledge questionnaires

Results

There was no statistical significant association between the selected demographic variables with

Table 1: frequency and percentage distribution of study participants with demographic characteristics

N= 201

S. No	Identification data	Frequency (N)	Percentage %
1.	Age (in years)		
	21-30 years	115	57.2%
	31-40 years	86	42.8%
2.	Education status		
	Formal	191	95%
	Non-formal	10	5%
3.	Occupation		
	Working	22	10.0%
	Non-working	179	89.9%
4.	Income		
	9000-22000	95	47.3%
	23000-36000	106	52.7%
5.	Type of family		
	Nuclear	98	48.8%
	Joint	103	51.2%
6.	No. of child		
	1-2	161	80.1%
	3-4	40	19.9%
7.	Do they have attended any awareness programme regarding dental hygiene?		
	Yes	1	0.5%
	No	200	99.5%

their level of knowledge score except income of the selected population.

Table 1 depicts that majority 115 (57.2%) were in the age of 21-30 years and 191 (95%) of the subjects had formal education. Majority of the sample 179 (89.9%) were non working, regarding the income of the subjects majority 106 (52.7%) had income

in the range of 23,000-36,000. Majority 103 (51.2%) had joint family. Regarding the no. of children 161 (80.1%) were having children 1-2 and 200 (99.5%) parents had no exposure of subjects regarding dental hygiene.

Table 2 depicts that there was no statistical significant association between the selected

Table 2: Association between knowledge score and selected demographic variables.

S. No.	Demographic variables	Knowledge level		Chi-square	p Value
		At and above median (28)	below median (28)		
1.	Age			0.004 ^a	0.951
	21-30 years	57	58		
	31-40 years	43	43		
2.	Educational status			1.726 ^a	0.189
	Formal	93	98		
	Informal	7	3		
3.	Occupational status			0.182 ^a	0.669
	Working	10	12		
	Non-working	90	89		
4.	Income			9.203 ^a	0.002*
	9000-22,000	58	37		
	23,000-36,000	42	64		
5.	Type of family			0.046 ^a	0.831
	Nuclear	48	50		
	Joint	52	51		
6.	No. of children			0.550 ^a	0.450
	1-2	78	83		
	3-4	22	18		
7.	Exposure			1.015 ^a	0.314
	Yes	1	0		
	No	99	101		

Significance level > 0.005, df=1, table value of 't' = 3.84, * = significant

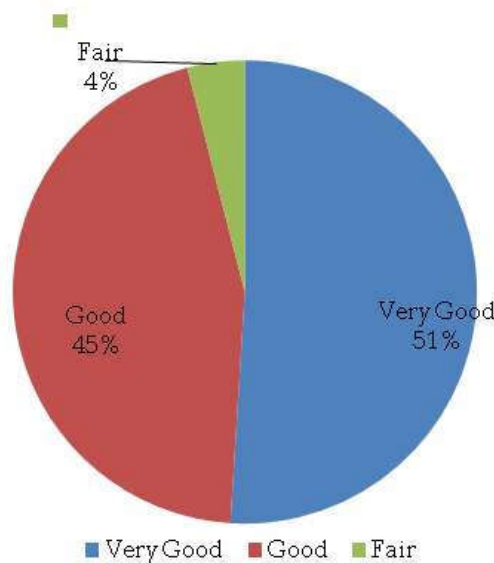


Fig. 1: shows that the 51% of mothers had a very good knowledge, 45% had good knowledge, 4% had fair knowledge regarding dental hygiene.

demographic variables with their level of knowledge score except income of the selected population.

Conclusion

The present study had found that the knowledge of mothers regarding dental hygiene had been associated with income. According to their socio economic status there was need to identify that dental hygiene is also important to maintain health, income is one of the most important factor that can affect maintenance of Dental Hygiene so through income we can easily access best Dental Clinics and materials (mouthwash, solutions) by which we can maintain dental hygiene.

Implication

The present study emphasizes knowledge regarding dental hygiene among mothers of children. The findings gave useful information to health care providers.

The study gave useful information regarding age, educational status and the knowledge level of the mothers of children regarding dental hygiene. Thus the study provides information which help the community health nurse to concentrate on dental hygiene, where nurses concentrate on dental health, where nurses can talk with mothers regarding dental hygiene.

In collaboration with in service education department the nurse administrator to take initiative for nursing for nursing personnel working in the hospital and community regarding dental hygiene.

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