

A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude of Mothers Regarding Care of Under Five Children in Selected Area of Byahatti PHC

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Abstract

A study was conducted to assess the knowledge and attitude of mothers regarding care of under five children in selected area of Byahatti PHC. Totally 25 mothers were selected by non probability convenient sampling technique. The knowledge was assessed by using structured interview schedule and attitude by using attitude scale. The results reveals that majority of the mothers 17 (68%) had average knowledge, 05 (20%) had good knowledge and 03 (12%) had poor knowledge. And majority of mothers 12 (48%) had negative attitude, 09 (36%) had favorable attitude and 04 (16%) had positive attitude towards care of under five children. Calculated value of Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation value $r = 0.575$ is greater than table value (0.396), Hence there is correlation between Knowledge and attitude of the mothers. The χ^2 value revealed that the gain in knowledge and socio demographic variables is independent. The study findings concluded that, the mothers of Byahatti village are having average knowledge (68%) and negative attitude (48%) regarding care of under- five children.

Keywords: Mothers; Care of Under Five Children.

Introduction

"Health is a state of complete harmony of the body, mind and spirit."

Children comprise one third of our population. Adequate nutrition and early feeding patterns are important determinant's of health during infancy holds a very important place in the life of every individual because the entire structure of man's life is formed during this time. Breast feeding alone is sufficient for initial six months. There after complementary foods are essential to maintain proper growth of an infant [1].

The Health of the children depends upon the health status of the mother and her awareness,

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education & skills. Mother looks after her children with love, affection & sense of sacrifice. She is the best person to identify minor developmental deviations & early evidence of disease process because she is constantly & closely watching her children. It's very important to know the nutritional status of the children. If it neglected in those conditions what all are the health problems children will suffer [2].

The WHO found that complementary feeding practices poor in India, especially in rural areas [3]. UNICEF, WHO and Government of India are strongly worked together for promotion of safe and suitable complementary feeding [4]. Government of India set strategy to increase complementary feeding rate up to 75% [5].

So the mother should have the proper knowledge regarding the care of children and positive attitude towards care of children. So she must show interest in providing immunization to her child. Thus the care of under five children includes many aspects such as prevention of diseases, growth and development monitoring, immunization, breast feeding and weaning.

Objectives of the Study

1. To assess the level of knowledge of mothers

regarding care of under five children.

2. To assess the level of attitude of mothers regarding care of under five children.
3. To find out co-relation between knowledge and attitude.
4. To find out the association between knowledge and selected socio demographic variables.
5. To find out association between attitude and selected socio demographic variables.

Assumption

Socio demographic variables of the mothers influences on knowledge and attitude regarding care of under five children.

Hypothesis

H₁: There will be co-relation between knowledge and attitude scores of mothers regarding care of under-five children.

H₂: There will be an association between knowledge scores of mothers regarding care of under-five children with their socio demographic variables.

H₃: There will be an association between attitude score of mothers regarding care of under-five children with their socio demographic variables.

Methodology

Research Approach

Descriptive research approach

Research Design

Non experimental research design

Sampling Technique

Non probability; convenient sampling technique

Sample Size: 25

Setting of the Study

Byahatti Villegge

Tool used

Structured Interview Schedule to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding care of underfive children.

Section I: Socio demographic variables

Section II: Knowledge items on care of underfive children

Section III: Attitude Scale

Procedure of Data Collection

The written consent was obtained by subjects. By using structured interview schedule and attitude scale data was collected regarding care of underfive children from the 25 mothers. Data collected was then tabulated and analyzed.

Results

The Findings Related To Socio-Demographic Variables of Subjects

Majority 15 (60%) of the subjects were in the age group of 21 – 25 years, Majority 11 (44%) of the subjects had High School education, Majority 16 (64%) of the subjects were House wives, Majority 14 (56%) of the subjects were belong to Joint family, Majority 15 (60%) of the subjects had mixed diet, Majority 22 (88%) of the subjects were belongs to Hindu religion, Majority 11 (44%) of subjects had monthly family income between Rs. 3001 – 4000 per month, and Majority of 22 (88%) subjects have television as a mass media.

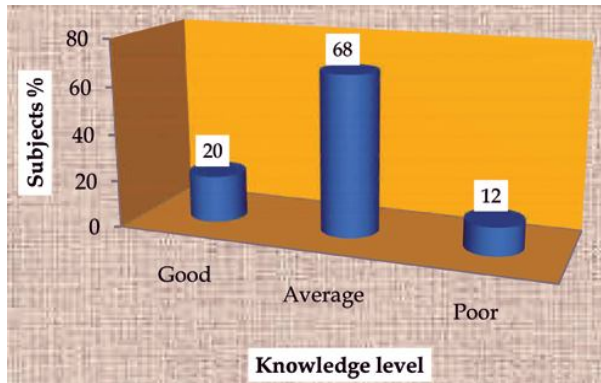
The Level of Knowledge of Mothers Regarding Care of under Five Children.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge scores of mothers regarding care of under five children

Knowledge Score	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Good (> 22)	05	20
Average (10 -22)	17	68
Poor (< 10)	03	12

Table 1 reveals that majority of the mothers 17 (68%) had average knowledge, 05 (20%) had good

knowledge and 03 (12%) had poor knowledge regarding care of underfive children.



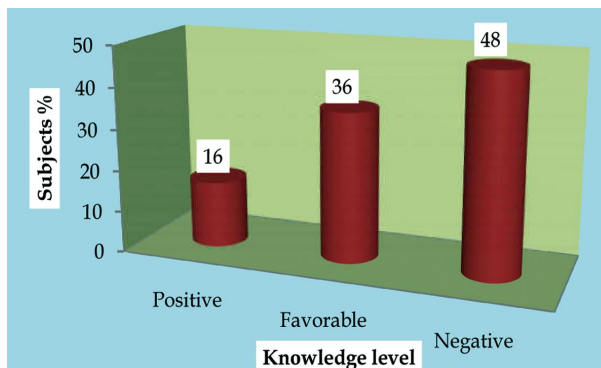
Graph 1: Cylindrical graph shows the percentage distribution of knowledge scores of subjects regarding care of under-five children

The Level of Attitude of Mothers Regarding Care of Under Five Children

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of attitude scores of mothers regarding care of under-five children n=25

Knowledge score	Frequency (f)	Percentage %
Positive (8)	04	16
Favorable (5 -7)	09	36
Negative (< 7)	12	48

Table 2 reveals that in pre test majority of mothers 12 (48%) had negative attitude, 09 (36%) had favorable attitude and 04 (16%) had positive attitude towards care of under-five children



Graph 2: Cylindrical graph shows the percentage distribution attitude scores of subjects regarding care of under five children

Correlation between Knowledge and Attitude Score of Mothers Regarding under Five Children

Calculated value of Karl Pearson’s coefficient of correlation value $r = 0.575$ is greater than table value (0.396), Hence H_1 is accepted.

Association between Knowledge Scores of Mothers Regarding Care of Under-Five Children with Their Selected Socio Demographic Variables

Since χ^2_{cal} value < χ^2_{tab} value. Hence, there is no

association between knowledge and selected demographic variables, Hence H_2 is rejected.

Association between Attitude Scores of Mothers Regarding Care of Under-Five Children with Their Selected Socio Demographic Variables

Since χ^2_{cal} value < χ^2_{tab} value. Hence, there is no association between knowledge and selected demographic variables, Hence H_3 is rejected.

Conclusion

The following conclusions were drawn on the basis of the findings of the study

1. The study results revealed that, the mothers of Byahatti village are having average knowledge regarding care of under- five children that is 68%.
2. The study results revealed that, the mothers of Byahatti village, are having negative attitude regarding care of under-five children that is 48%.
3. Study results revealed that there is no association between knowledge and attitude of mothers with their selected socio demographic variables.

Recommendations

1. A replication of present study can be conducted with a larger population to generalize the findings.
2. A structured knowledge programme (STP) on care of under-five children, can also be used to improve the knowledge and attitude.
3. A study can be conducted to find out the prevalence of knowledge and attitude on care of under-five children among mothers.

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