

## ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF SPACING AMONG PRIMI MOTHERS IN RURAL AREA, KUKURADEV (KANPUR)

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### *Abstract*

Spacing is the time interval from one child's birth date until the next child birth date. It is important in child growth and development. In countries growth rate is more than 1%, the standard of living is low. The population growth rate is 1.76% (2011). Women are the developing world's that have many children in quick successions place themselves and their children at enormous risk. Short and long birth interval is known to adversely affect infant and child mortality. Spacing between pregnancies can have important health implication for a mother and her baby. A research as shown that there are a number of issues which are more likely occur when a women is pregnant again within a year of giving birth. The research approach adopted for the study was cross sectional survey approach and the research design was simple descriptive design. The sample of the study was primi mothers in rural area, Kukuradev, Kanpur. The sample size was 40, selected by non-probability sampling. The research prepared a self-structured questionnaire as a tool to assess the knowledge regarding importance of spacing among primi mothers. The collected data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings shows that majority of mothers were below 29 year of age (55%). Most of them had poor educational status (65%) and 77.5% were home makers. Majority of women were belong to Hindu religion (90%) mothers from nuclear family were higher (55%) and majority of them belong to lower class (70%).The mean knowledge scores in relation to demographic variables show that there was no significant association between knowledge score and demographic variables like age, education, occupation, religion, and family monthly income except type of family and knowledge score at 0.05 levels.

**Keywords:** Spacing, Primi mothers, mortality, self structured questionnaire

### **Introduction**

Birth spacing is important in child growth and development The child is likely to receive his full share of love care including nutrition needs when the family size is small and birth are properly spaced. Infants and mothers are extremely important part of the society as it lays the foundation for good nation. To achieve this it is necessary to improve the knowledge regarding child spacing.<sup>1</sup>

The gap between expressed favorable towards the small family norm and knowledge and practices of family planning among Indian couples. It is also well known that children close together do not usually develop physically and mentally as well as children born three or more year a parts. Birth spacing is the interval between births that provides the greatest health, social and economic benefits for the family. Enable, couples to determine when they will have

children is vital safe motherhood and healthy children. Birth spacing refers to the time interval from one Childs birth date until the next birth date. However, researcher agrees that 2 years to 3 years between births is usually best for the well-being of mother and her children. Control the population is not there for a matter of urgency not only for social economic development but also to improve the already low standard of living. The aim of our population policy was to reduce the net reproduction rate to 1% by 2010.<sup>2</sup>

When the crude death rate is subtracted from crude death rate, net residual is called the annual rate of growth. In countries where the growth rate is more than 1%, the standard of living is low. In India the population growth rate is 1.76 % ( 2011).the current "population explosion "In India is due to high growth rate. The developed countries such as the USA have

growth rate less than 1%, infact they are aiming at “zero population growth “or no growth at all.<sup>3</sup>

In 1977 the government of India re-designated the “National family planning program” as the “National family welfare program” and also changes the name of the ministry of health and family planning of ministry of health and family welfare. It is reflection of the government to anxiety to promote family planning through the total welfare of the family. It is aimed at achieving a higher end example to improve the quality of life.<sup>3</sup> There is over 197.4 million married couple in the reproductive age group in India. They must accept the small family norm of two children. Statistics indicate that during the year 2009-10, not more than 46.5% of the eligible couples were protected by effective contraceptive ; this level has to be raised up to at least 60% in order to achieve the demographic goal of net reproductive rate of ‘1’.<sup>3</sup> Women spacing practices these include a women’s age at the birth of each child, the number of children she already has and her educational attainment social status labor force participation and place of residence. Knowledge of mother regarding importance of birth spacing is an important factors influences spacing practice.<sup>4</sup> Rapid population growth (96% in developing countries) is a critical issue worldwide. Benefits are; improved quality often better health less than physical and emotional stress of life, better education, job and economic opportunities. Benefits are enjoyed by the couples the children other family members, the community and country.<sup>5</sup>

### Objectives of the study

1. To assess the knowledge regarding importance of spacing among primi mothers.
2. To find out the association of knowledge score with demographic variables.

### Hypothesis:

**H<sub>1</sub>:** There is a significant association between the knowledge score and selected demographic variables.

### Material and methods used:

**Research design:** Simple descriptive design was used for the study.

**Research approach:** Cross-sectional survey approach was adopted for the present study.

**Setting of the study:** The study was conducted in rural area, Kukuradev, Kanpur.

**Population:** Population for the present study was all primi mothers.

**Sampling and sample size:** Non-probability convenient sampling technique was used to select 40 primi mothers of rural area Kukuradev, Kanpur who fulfilled the sampling criteria for the present study.

### Variables:

**Research variable:** In this present study knowledge of primi-mother was the independent variables.

**Demographic variable:** Age, education, occupation, religion, monthly income, type of family.

### Sampling criteria

#### Inclusion criteria

- Primi-mother who were willing to participate in the study.
- The mother who knows Hindi.
- Participant who were available during the period of data collection.

#### Exclusion criteria

- The mother who attended the family welfare-Clinic.

### Development and description of tools used in the study

Structured knowledge questionnaire used for data collection. The tool consists of two sections:

**Section-A:** Consist of socio-demographic data including age, education, occupation, religion, type of family, per capita income.

**Section-B:** Consist of 20 closed ended questionnaires for assessing the knowledge level regarding importance of spacing.

### Data collection procedure

Data was collected from 19-09-2016 to 26-09-2016. Prior to the data collection, permission was obtained from Principal of Rama College of Nursing, to conduct the study . Prior to interview each mother was explained about the purpose of the study . Written consent taken from each mothers. Each day an average of 10-12 mothers were interviewed. Average time spend for each interview was approximately 20-30minutes.

40 primi mothers were selected by using non-probability convenient sampling technique.

**Plan for data analysis**

The data was analyzed on the basis of objectives of the study. The obtained data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. The demographic data would be analyzed in term of descriptive statistics. The data analysis was follows.<sup>3</sup>

- Organized data in a master sheet or computer.
- Personal data analyzed in term of frequencies and percentage.
- Relationship between the variables and association was analyzed by using inferential statistics.

**Data analysis and major findings**

**Section 1: Demographic data**

1. Majority of mothers were in the age group of 24-28 years (55%) which contrast who found that (25%) were in the age group of 18-23 year.

2. Majority (65%) of mothers were in the secondary school education, 15% were in the no formal education, 10% were both higher secondary and graduate.
3. Majority of primi mothers (90%) were Hindu, 10% were Muslims.
4. Majority of occupation reveals that 77.5% of mothers were home maker.
5. Majority 55% of mothers were from nuclear family, 37.5% from joint family and only 7.5% from extended family
6. Majority 70% of mothers have the income of below 5000-/, 27.5% have the income 5001-10,000-/, 2.5% have the income of more than 15,001.

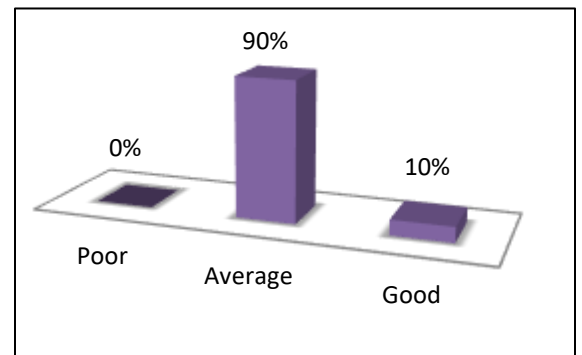
**Section 2: Level of knowledge score among primi mothers regarding birth spacing**

Among 40 primi mothers, the majority of respondent 90% had average knowledge on birth spacing and 10% of mother’s knowledge shows that Good level of knowledge.

*Table 1: Percentage distribution of primi mothers according to their knowledge score of primi mothers towards birth spacing with mean and standard deviation N=40*

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Score in percentage	Mean	SD
Poor 0-6	0	0%	10.72	0.767
Average 7-14	36	90%		
Good 15-20	4	10%		

Overall, mean, median, SD and mean percentage of primi mothers’ knowledge on birth spacing shows that they had 10.72 mean knowledge score.



*Figure 1: Bar diagram shows percentage distribution of primi mothers according to their knowledge score*

**Section-3: This section deals with association between the demographical variables and knowledge score of subjects on birth spacing.**

There was no significant association between knowledge score and selected demographic variables like age in year, educational status, occupation, religion, and family income except types of family and knowledge scores at 0.05 level of significant.<sup>5</sup>

### Recommendations

On the basis of finding, it was recommended that,

- The similar study may be replicated on large scale.
- The similar study can be conducted to evaluate the knowledge on birth spacing.
- The similar study can be done by comparative study in rural mothers.
- A study can be conducted in community health setting by using large sample of mothers.

### Conclusion

From the findings of present study, it can be concluded that:

1. The percentage distribution of primi mother according to their demographic variable:

55% of mothers were the age group of 24-28 year (highest). 65% of mothers have primary education. 77.5% of mothers were homemaker. 90% of mothers were Hindu. 55% mothers were from nuclear family and 70% of mothers having family monthly income of below 5000/-

2. Percentage distribution of prim mothers according to their knowledge score:

The primi mothers had average knowledge towards spacing.

3. Association between demographic variables with their knowledge score:

There was no significant association observed between demographic variables such as: age, education, occupation, religion and family monthly income with knowledge score except type of family at the level of 0.05.

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