

DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ACCESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF MOTHERS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF DIARRHEA AMONG CHILDREN IN SELECTED HOSPITALS AT KANPUR CITY, UP.

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Abstract: Diarrheal diseases constitute a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children in developing countries. One of the best methods of controlling diarrhoea is home treatment and mothers are the chief care givers for under-fives. Descriptive study was conducted to access the knowledge of mothers regarding the management of diarrhea among children in selected hospitals at Kanpur city. Descriptive approach was used for the study. Data was collected from 60 mothers of under five children, selected from two hospitals in Kanpur City. Purposive sampling technique was adopted to select the mothers of under five children. Descriptive and inferential analyses were used for the analysis. The mean knowledge score of mothers of underfive was 25.83 with S.D 6.19. The overall knowledge score of mothers of underfive children were moderate. No significant association was found between knowledge score and with selected demographic variables at 0.05 level

Key words- Diarrhoea,, Mothers, Underfive, chief care givers

Introduction:

Diarrhoea is a common but potentially severe problem in infant and children which ultimately causes death. It is an acute or chronic intestinal disturbance, characterized by increased frequency, watery stool or increased bowel movement¹.

Diarrhoeal diseases rank among the “Top Three” causes of death in tropical infants and children. Diarrhoea is by far the major killer in the developing world. Diarrhoeal diseases constitute a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children in developing countries².

One of the objectives of health for all by 2000 A.D states that child mortality rate should be less than 10 per 1000 under-five live children³. Unless necessary steps are initiated to improve the quality of child health, it is extremely difficult to achieve this goal. In developing countries, diarrhoeal diseases account for around 5 million deaths of children under the age of 5 years⁴. One of the best methods of controlling diarrhoea is home treatment and mothers are the chief care givers for under-fives. Hence their knowledge is essential for appropriate action related to home management of diarrhoea⁵.

Statement of the problem

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding management of diarrhoea among children in selected Hospitals at Kanpur City, U.P.

Objectives:

1. To assess the knowledge of mothers regarding diarrhoea
2. To assess the knowledge of mothers regarding management in children (0-5 Years)
3. To find out the association between knowledge regarding management of diarrhoea with selected demographic variables.

Assumption

1. The mothers of under-five children have basic knowledge regarding diarrhoea.
2. Mothers have good knowledge regarding home management of diarrhoea.

Hypothesis

H₀ There will not be significant knowledge of mothers regarding the management of diarrhoea.

H₁ There will be significant knowledge of mothers on home management of diarrhoea.

Research Variables

Independent variables:

In this study the independent variable is the knowledge of mothers.

Dependent variable:

In this study the dependent variables are management of diarrhoea.

Extraneous variable:

In this study the extraneous variables are age, educational status of the mother, type of family, religion, income, occupation, residence, number of children and recreational facility.

Setting

In this study the investigator selected Mariampur Hospital & Children Hospital at Kanpur, which is based on the geographical proximity, feasibility and familiarity with the setting.

The bed strength of Mariampur Hospital is of 200 beds. The bed strength of Children hospital is of 250 beds and it is situated within the periphery of G.S.V.M Medical College, Kanpur U.P.

Population

The target population in the present study consists of mothers of under-five children who were admitted at Mariampur Hospital & Children hospital associated with L.L.R. Hospital, Kanpur City U.P.

Sample

In this study the sample consist of 60 mothers of under- five children those who were admitted for the treatment of diarrhoea in selected hospitals, Kanpur, U.P.

Sampling Criteria:-

Inclusion Criteria:

1. Mothers of under- five children
2. Those mothers who were caring their under-five children suffering from diarrhoea.
3. Mothers who were willing to participate and who are present at the time of study
4. Mothers who can speak & understand Hindi

Exclusion criteria:

1. Mothers who were not having under- five children
2. Mothers of children with serious problem or illness
3. Mothers who were not willing to participate in this study.

Sampling Technique

In this study purposive sampling technique was adopted to select the mothers of under-five children suffering from diarrhoea.

Description of the Tool

Self Structured interview schedule consists of two parts

Section- A - Demographic variables.

This consists of demographic variables like age, educational status of mothers, types of family, religion, income, occupation, residence, number of children and recreational facility.

Section- B – Questionnaire to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding the management of diarrhoea.

It deals with 40 questions to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding the management of diarrhoea in different areas such as General information, Hygiene, Nutrition, Management and Warning signals.

Method of data collection

Formal permission was obtained from the Head of the Department of Children Hospital and the Administration of Mariampur Hospital, Kanpur. The

study was conducted among 60 subjects, who were selected by purposive sampling technique. The investigator given self introduction and explained the purpose of study. The subjects were assured anonymity.

Result

A) Frequency and percentage distribution of mothers of underfive with their demographic characteristics

- Majority of them were 22 (36.67%) in the age group of 23-27 yrs, 18 (30%) belongs to the age group of 28-32 yrs, 12 (20%) above 32 yrs and 8 (13.33%) were belongs to the age group of 18-20 yrs.
- Majority of the educational status of the mothers were Primary 23 (38.33%), Secondary and above were 20 (33.33%), High school were 9 (15%) and only 8 (13.33%) were illiterate.
- Majority of the participants 33(55%) belongs to Nuclear family and 27 (45%) belongs to Joint family.
- Majority of the participant's religion were Hindu 55 (91.67%), Muslim 2 (3.33%), Christian 2 (3.33%) and Sikh (1.67%).
- Majority of the participants 45 (75%) belong to the income group of < Rs.5000/, 8 (13.33%) belong to the income group of 5001-7000, 4 (6.67%) belong to the income group of 7001-10,000 and only 3 (5%) above 10,001.
- Majority of the participants occupation were business 30 (50%), Private Service 16 (26.67%), Government service 7 (11.67) and doing Agriculture 7 (11.66).
- Majority of the participants place of residence were 37(61.66%) urban, 22 (36.66%) rural and 1 (1.66%) were slum.
- Majority of the mothers 18 (30%) were having children with three years, 16 (26.67%) with two years, 14 (23.33%) one year child and 12 (20%) of them had children more than three years.

- Majority of the participants were having the recreational facility as Television 37 (61.67%), Radio 12 (20%), Books 8 (13.33%) and only 3 (5%) were having recreating by computer.

B) Knowledge of mothers regarding the management of diarrhea among under- five children.

Table- 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge of mothers regarding the management of diarrhoea

Level of Knowledge	Range	Frequency	Percentage
Poor	10-20	10	16.6%
Moderate	21-30	35	58.4%
Adequate	31-40	15	25%
Total	1-40	60	100

The above table shows that the majority of the mothers of under-five children 35 (58.4%) had Moderate knowledge followed by 15(25%) adequate knowledge and 10 (16.6%) with poor knowledge.

Table-2: Mean, Median and Standard Deviation of mothers knowledge regarding the management of diarrhoea among under-five children

N=60

Score range	Mean	Median	SD
10-40	25.8	25.7	6.1

Data presented in above Table shows that the mean score of knowledge was found to be 25.83 with standard deviation of 6.199. The median of distribution was 25.71.

C) Association of knowledge of mothers of under-five children with their selected demographic variables.

It is evident that there is no statistically association between age of the mothers, educational status, type of family, religion, income, occupation,

residence of family, number of children and recreational facilities in the family.

Conclusion

The study findings revealed that the overall knowledge level of mothers of underfive children were moderate. The overall mean knowledge of the mothers were 25.83 with S.D 6.1. The study found that no significant association between knowledge score and with their selected demographic variables at 0.05 level. The study found that there is a need to improve knowledge level of mothers of underfive children regarding management of diarrhea.

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