

A Study to Assess the Level of Knowledge on Acute Respiratory Infections among the Mothers of Under Five Children at Selected Area at Radhapuram Village in Villupuram District

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ABSTRACT

Children are an embodiment of our dreams, hopes for the future. They are wet clay in the potters hands, handled with care they become something beautiful else. They break and become discarded. They are the most vulnerable group in the society. Acute respiratory infections among under five children mortality rate in developing countries and is responsible for 1.9 million deaths annually. Among 92 countries in the world 90% of child mortality burden, 14-24% of the under five mortality burden due to Acute respiratory infections and nearly 70% of acute respiratory infection mortality occurs in Africa and south east Asia regions. Most of the children have about 4-6 attacks of acute respiratory infection each year. A descriptive study was conducted to assess the level of knowledge regarding acute respiratory infections among 30 mothers of under five children selected by non-probability convenience sampling technique and questionnaire was used to assess level of knowledge regarding acute respiratory infections. Analysed by using descriptive and inferential findings revealed that 13(43.3%) of the mothers of under five children are between the age of 21-23 yrs, 15 (50%) of the mothers of under five children are from nuclear family, 25(83.3%) of the mothers of under five children have family income of Rs.5000/-10000/- per month, 19(63.3%) of the mothers of under five children are Christians and 16(53.3%) of the mothers of under five children are cooli. There is no significant association between the level of knowledge and the demographic variable

except. Mother's type of family. This study implies that the level of knowledge among mothers of under five children had inadequate knowledge about acute respiratory infections.

Key Words: Acute Respiratory Infections, under five children

INTRODUCTION

“The childhood shows the man as morning shows the day”.

Children are an embodiment of our dreams, hopes for the future. They are wet clay in the potters hands, handled with care they become something beautiful else. They break and become discarded. They are the most vulnerable group in the society. Acute respiratory infections particularly lower respiratory tract infections leading to death among under five children.

Acute respiratory infections among under five children mortality rate in developing countries and is responsible for 1.9 million deaths annually. Among 92 countries in the world 90% of child mortality burden, 14-24% of the under five mortality burden due to Acute respiratory infections and nearly 70% of acute respiratory infection mortality occurs in Africa and south east Asia regions. Most of the children have about 4-6 attacks of acute respiratory infection each year

Globally, in every country secondly a child dies from Acute Respiratory Infection. This loss of life is even more

tragic because nearly all these deaths are preventable. More than 98% of childhood acute respiratory infection deaths occur in developing countries, the global coalition against acute respiratory infection is a collaborative effort of more than 100 child health organisations which have created the day to drive awareness of disease.

Acute respiratory infection is an acute infection mostly occurs in under five year children. Every year most of the children will die with this acute respiratory infection. The Acute respiratory infection incidence rate in the world wide is said to be 94,037,000. Among 776 children 23.9% are present suffering with acute respiratory infections. Infections account for 1/4th of all deaths in under five children.

According to WHO in India episodes of Acute respiratory infection child per year is 0.30 and more in estimated 40,80,000 (forty lakhs eight thousand) Acute respiratory infection deaths are occurring Annually which is highest among all countries in the world. India leads the world in the major place with 27% of the global acute respiratory infection cases. Every minute a child dies of acute respiratory infection. The disease burden of Acute respiratory infection is estimated at 94,037,000.

Total world population is 6,840,507,003 in that about 28.2% are under-five children's. Total population of India is 1166079217, In that 440 million are children. About 27 million children are born each year in India. But nearly 2 million of them do not live to the age of five. Acute respiratory infections are leading cause of child mortality in India about 30% of under-five children's affected with acute respiratory tract infections.

A large number of diseases could be prevented with little or no medical interventions. Mothers play a key role in the management of child with upper respiratory tract infection. Mothers has to understand that the appropriate decision making, recognize the mild, moderate and severe respiratory tract infection and initiate

correct domiciliary management for upper respiratory infection at home as soon as possible to prevent the progression of the infection. The ignorance and in adequate knowledge are important factors, which affects health of child. If upper respiratory infections are not treated in early stage it may leads to certain complication like staphylococcal, pericarditis, empyema, pneumothorax, and staphylococcal pneumonia. This increases the risk of child mortality.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the level of knowledge on acute respiratory infections among the mothers of under five children at selected area at Radhapuram Village in Villupuram District.

OBJECTIVES:

- To assess the level of knowledge among mothers of under five children.
- To associate the level of knowledge among mothers of under five children with their selected socio demographic variables.

ASSUMPTIONS

- Child needs complete health for growth and development.
- Adequate knowledge of the disease condition will help in adopting positive attitude towards health practice.
- Awareness regarding acute respiratory infections among the mothers of under five children may be below average.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Non experimental research design in which descriptive design was used in this study. 30 mothers of under five children selected by convenient sampling technique. First the demographic data like age, education status, type of family, family income per month or religion were collected. Knowledge of the mothers assessed by self structured questionnaire. Descriptive and analytical statistics was used for data analysis.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

ASSESSMENT ON LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AMONG MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN REGARDING ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS.

The table 4.1 shows 13(43.3%) mothers of under five children had moderately adequate knowledge and 17(56.6%) mothers of under five children had inadequate knowledge and 0% of

mothers of under five children had adequate knowledge.

Table 4.1: Frequency & Percentage distribution on level of knowledge among mothers of under five children regarding acute respiratory infections.

S. no	Level of knowledge	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1.	Adequate Knowledge	0	0%
2.	Moderately adequate Knowledge	13	43.3%
3.	Inadequate Knowledge	17	56.6%

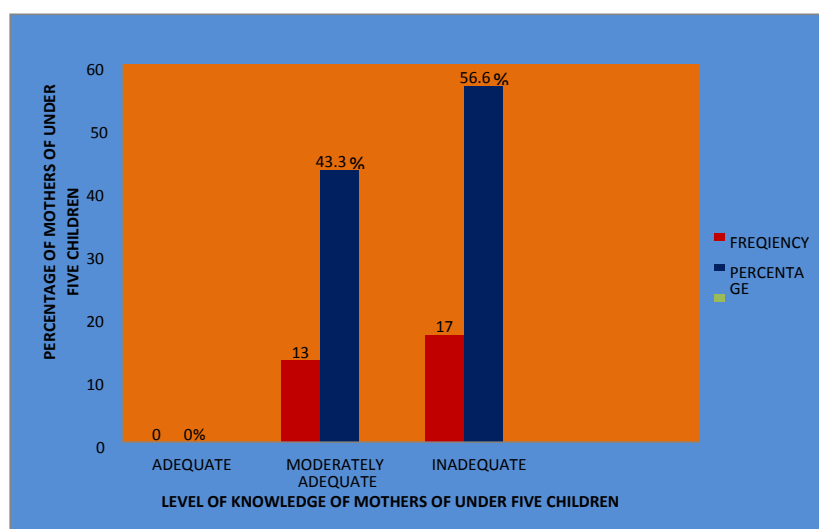


Figure 4.1: percentage and frequency distribution on level of knowledge among mothers.

ASSOCIATION OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE REGARDING ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION AMONG THE MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN WITH THEIR DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES.

Table 4-3: chi-square test on the knowledge regarding acute respiratory infection among the mothers of under five children with their demographic variables.

S. No	Demographic Variable	Adequate	Moderately Adequate	Inadequate	df	χ^2	t-Value
1.	Age of the Mother				3	1.2616	7.82
	18-20 yrs	0	2	3			
	21-23 yrs	0	5	8			
	24-26 yrs	0	6	5			
	27-29 yrs	0	0	1			
2.	Type of family				2	8.1203	5.99 [*]
	Nuclear	0	10	3			
	Joint	0	3	11			
3.	Income of the family				1	0.025	3.84
	5000-10000	0	11	14			
	10000-15000	0	2	3			
	15000-20000	0	0	0			
	Above 20000	0	0	0			
4.	Religion				2	1.096	5.99
	Hindu	0	1	3			
	Christian	0	8	11			
	Muslim	0	4	3			
	Others	0	0	0			
5.	Occupation				3	0.435	7.82
	Cooli	0	6	10			
	Farmer	0	5	5			
	Employee	0	1	1			
	Others	0	1	1			

(*Significance p<0.05 level)

The table 4.1 shows that there is no significance association between the level of knowledge and the demographic variable except under five children mother's type of family.

DISCUSSION

The first objective of the study is to assess the level of knowledge regarding acute respiratory infections among the mothers of under five children.

Among all the mothers of under five children.13 (43.3%) of the mothers of under five children had moderately adequate knowledge. There as 17(56.6%) of the mothers of under five children had inadequate knowledge. This show mostly the mothers of under five children have inadequate knowledge regarding acute respiratory infections.

The second objective of the study is to associate the level of knowledge regarding acute respiratory infections among the mothers of under five children with their demographic variables.

The present study reveals that there is a significant association between the level of knowledge with their demographic variable excepts the mothers of under five children type of family.

CONCLUSION

This study was to assess the level of knowledge regarding acute respiratory infections among the Mothers of under five children at selected areas on Radhapuram village. The findings of the study showed that mostly mothers of under five children had inadequate knowledge about acute respiratory infections, There is one association between level of knowledge with their related demographic variables regarding acute respiratory infections helps to keep the children away from acute respiratory infections. So the health professionals have an important role in educating the mothers of under five children to gain the knowledge on acute respiratory infections.

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