KNOWLEDGE ON DIARRHOEA AMONG THE MOTHERS OF UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN

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ABSTRACT

Diarrhea or diarrhea is the condition of having three or more loose or liquid bowel movements per day. A study to assess the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among the mothers of under-five children at a selected hospital. The objectives are to assess the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among the mothers of under-five children. To find out the association between the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among the mothers of under-five children with the selected demographic variables. The sampling technique was non probability, purposive sampling technique with the sample of 30 mothers of under-five children and questionnaires were formulated, structured interview schedule were used to assess the knowledge. Hypotheses were formulated. The level of significance selected was p<0.05. The mean value is 16.8% and the standard deviation is 4.28%. The study shows that 70% of the mothers of under five children are having inadequate knowledge. 16.6% of the mothers of under five children are having moderate knowledge and 13.4% of the mothers of under five children are having adequate knowledge. So this study shows that the mothers of under five children are not having adequate knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhoea.

KEYWORD: Knowledge on Prevention of Diarrhoea & Mothers of Under Five Children

INTRODUCTION

A baby is an inestimable blessing and bother by -Mark Twain -. Diarrhea is the condition of having three or more loose or liquid bowel movements per day.-The most common cause is gastroenteritis . Oral rehydration solutions (ORS) with modest amounts of salts and zinc tablets are the treatment of choice and have been estimated to have saved 50 million children in the past 25 years. In cases where ORS is not available, homemade solutions are often used. Diarrhoeal disease is the second leading cause of death among children under five (0-5 years) globally. About 22 percent of childhood deaths in developing countries are attributable to diarrhoea. It kills more young children than AIDS, malaria, and measles combined diarrheal diseases are associated with poverty and unhygienic environments. This probably explains the high prevalence of diarrhoea among children whose mothers did not attend school and/or among children living in poorest households particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. About 13 percent of child deaths are diarrhoea related, approximately 60,450 deaths due to diarrhoea.

Title

A descriptive study to assess the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children (0-5 years) at selected Tertiary Hospital, Kelambakkam, Kanchipuram district, Tamilnadu, India
OBJECTIVES

- To assess the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children.
- To find out the association between the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among the mothers of under five children (0-5 years) with the selected demographic variables.

Hypothesis

H0 - There will be no significant association between levels of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children (0-5 years) with selected demographic variables.

METHODOLOGY

In this present study Researcher had used non experimental-descriptive design with quantitative approach and was conducted among prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children (0-5 years), Who fulfills the given criteria. The sample size was 30 and The sampling technique was non probability, purposive sampling technique.

- Sampling criteria
- Inclusion Criteria
  - The study includes the mothers who
  - Are having under five children (0-5 years).
  - Can speak Tamil /English
- Exclusion Criteria
  - Mothers who are having the children more than five years.
  - Mothers who are not willing to participate.
  - Mothers of children not attended the hospital

STUDY INSTRUMENTS

In present study aimed to evaluating the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children the researcher planned and prepared demographic variables Proforma and structured interview schedule to assess the knowledge on the prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children.

Scoring and Interpretation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Level of Knowledge</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Inadequate knowledge</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>0-50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moderate knowledge</td>
<td>16-21</td>
<td>51-72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Adequate Knowledge</td>
<td>22-30</td>
<td>73-100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Collection Procedure

In this present study the researcher assessed the level of knowledge on prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children, demographic characteristics of mothers of under five children were assessed with the help of demographic variable Proforma and level of knowledge were assessed with the help of structured interview schedule on mothers of under five children.

RESULTS

The results shows that maximum of mothers of under five children were in the age group of 26-30 years it was (43.3%). Majority of the mothers of under five children had primary level of education (53.3%). Majority of mothers of under five children source of water availability were with over head tank (26.6%), Majority of mothers of under five children having the knowledge through television (50%) Majority of mothers of under five children having the below Rs.5, 000/- income per month. (70%). The mean value is 16.8% and the standard deviation is 4.28%. The study shows that 70% of the mothers of under five children are having inadequate knowledge. 16.6% of the mothers of under five children are having moderate knowledge and 13.4% of the mothers of under five children are having adequate knowledge.

Table 2: Mean and Standard Deviation of Knowledge of Mothers of Under Five Children Regarding Prevention of Diarrhoea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Level of Knowledge</th>
<th>No of Mothers of Toddlers</th>
<th>Total Number of Questions</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Mean %</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>Knowledge %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>22-30</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>4.28</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>16-21</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0-15</td>
<td>16-21</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 shows that there were 30 samples and 30 questions and the total mean score is 16.8 and the standard deviation is 4.28.

There was no significant association between levels of knowledge with selected demographic variables of the mothers of under five children like age of mother, educational background, occupation, head of family, source of knowledge, sex of child, age of child, housing pattern and water availability.

Figure 1: Distribution of Source of Water Availability on Mothers of Under Five Children Regarding Prevention of Diarrhoea

Source of Water Availability:
- Tap water: 16%
- Tank: 11%
- Well: 67%
DISCUSSIONS

The demographic variable socioeconomic background had no significant association of knowledge regarding Diarrhea among the under five mothers. The study reveals that there is highly significant association between the knowledge level and demographic variable in age of mother, educational background, occupation, head of family, source of knowledge, sex of child, age of child, housing pattern and water availability. So h0 is strongly accepted.

CONCLUSIONS

The mothers of under five children should be aware of prevention of diarrhoea just because diarrhoea causes severe life threatening issues and it is a second leading cause of death among children under five (0-5 years)

REFERENCES
