

# Knowledge Regarding First Aid among Teachers at Selected Primary Schools Kashipur, Udham Singh Nagar District

Sobitha Bansal

Research Scholar, Department of Nursing, Shri Venkateshwara University, Amroha, India

**Abstract:** This paper presents an overview on knowledge regarding first aid among teachers at selected primary schools kashipur, udham singh nagar district

**Keywords:** first aid, teachers, primary schools

## 1. Introduction

School life is an important part of children's life, which has a direct impact on their physical and mental health. Health promotion and prevention are the most neglected part in both policy and practice. Schools can play a significant role in health promotion due to two major reasons; first, the schools offer structured opportunities for learning and second, pupils spend significant amount of their time in schools during which they are involved in a variety of activities including sports and physical exercise. In developing countries, school health services are often neglected<sup>1</sup> this directly influences the management of common illnesses such as first-aid care or referral.

Children are vulnerable to injuries and accidents, which may vary from minor injuries to severe accidents resulting in bleeding and fractures, thus the first-aid management becomes as important as taking a child to a medical facility. Children spend most of their daytime in schools, and are at greater risk of accidents and injuries due to involvement in sports and other extracurricular activities, and hence require first-aid more often than do adults. Overall, majority of the injuries among children are directly related to outdoor physical activities, of which 20% occurs during school hours.

Teachers are the first ones who should deliver first aid and save their lives and young adults at the school. Accordingly, schoolteachers should have enough knowledge regarding managing first aid in crises. Nonetheless, it was evidenced that most of the teachers do not have enough first aid knowledge and correct practice in some cases. A major role of school health nurse is preventive. Primary prevention, such as an education program that helps teachers identifies, interpret and respond to minor injuries. Community health nurse is better placed to train teachers about most common child injuries and their first aids.

## 2. Methodology

Descriptive study design was conducted for this study. Settings were selected primary schools Kashipur, Udham Singh Nagar District. The subjects of the present study were selected randomly from previously mentioned schools; the subject consisted of 140 teachers who are in contact with students from 1st standard to 4th Standard. Tools used for data collection was interview Questionnaire and observational check list.

## 3. Results

The present study showed that about more than half of them aged  $\leq 40$  years and majority of teachers are female. Two thirds of teachers had Bachelor degree and others have master's degree. Most of the teachers have more than 20 years' experience. The study findings also illustrated that most of school accidents were fracture, wound, epistaxis, epilepsy. Regarding attending of training course before about first aid, the present study showed that only one quarter of teachers had attended training course about first aid before.

The present study indicated that 70% of teachers had inadequate knowledge ,20% have moderate knowledge and 10% have adequate knowledge. From the researcher's point of view these results reflect lacking awareness from the Ministry of Education concerning the provision of special courses for first aid to teachers, as well as there is no return for teachers to attend these courses. This also reflects deficient interest among teachers toward the importance of receiving training on first aid.

## 4. Discussion

The present study showed that about more than half of them aged  $\leq 40$  years; this result in agreement with Kumar et. al., (2015), who studied "Knowledge of primary school teachers on first aid management of minor accidents among children at Ambala" and reported that equally 35% of teachers were in the age group 31-40.

In referral to sex of the participated teachers, it was observed that more than half of them were females; this agreed with Elwardany Aly & Khalaf, (2017), who studied "Impact of

training program regarding first aid knowledge and practices among preparatory schools' teachers at Assiut City" and found that more than two thirds of them were females and with Kumar et al., (2015).

From the researcher point of view, these findings may come back to that females are having better desire and more willing than males to attach in a program related to first aid and they have a desire to know everything about school injury and their first aid. They also want to know first aid to deal not only with school injury, but also daily incidents that occur to them at homes.

The present study revealed that two thirds of teachers had Bachelor degree; this in agreement with Arli & Yildirim, (2017), who studied "The Effects of Basic First Aid Education on Teachers' Knowledge Level", and mentioned that (87.5%) of them had bachelor's degree, Al-Samghan et al., (2015),

Regarding teachers' years of experience, it was recorded that most of studied teachers had experience less than or equal 20 years. This finding was in agreement with Masih et al., (2014), who studied "Knowledge and practice of primary school teachers about first aid management of selected minor injuries among children", and found that majority of school teachers were having 0-15 years of teaching experience.

The study findings also illustrated that most of school accidents were fracture, wound, epistaxis, epilepsy; these findings were in agreement with Al-Samghan et al., (2015).

Regarding attending of training course before about first aid, the present study showed that only one quarter of teachers had attended training course about first aid before, these results were matching with, Kumar et al., (2013), who studied "Perception and practices regarding first-aid among school teachers in Mysore", and reported that only 16.4% of the teachers had received training about first aid.

In the present study mass media (TV and internet) was the highest source of information for nearly three quarters of the studied teachers. These results were corresponding with Al-Tameemi and Khudair, (2016), who studied "Knowledge and

Attitudes of Primary School Teachers toward First Aid in Al-Najaf Al-Ashraf City", and reported that TV & mass media were more frequent sources of information about first aid. In the same line with our results.

Then present study mass media indicated that most of the teachers had inadequate knowledge, these results were on the same line with (Ali et al 2010) who assessed the effect of an educational program on the knowledge of newly graduated nursery teachers regarding common accidents and emergencies among pre schoolers and their first aid management, indicated that most of the teachers had inadequate knowledge.

## 5. Conclusions

In conclusion, knowledge about first aid is not satisfactory among teachers of primary schools. This is largely due to a lack of information and training. So, first aid educational and training programs should be introduced at school and college levels for early management of injuries and emergencies. Moreover, knowledge about first-aid should be incorporated in educational curricula.

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