

A Study to Assess the Level of Knowledge Regarding Diarrheal Management among Mothers of Under Five Children in Selected Hospital at Enathur, Kanchipuram

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Abstract—There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in. Aim of the study was to assess the of knowledge regarding diarrheal management among mothers of under five children. The research approach adopted for the study was descriptive design. The collected data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The findings of the study revealed that mother needs knowledge on diarrheal management. Majority (66.66 %) of the mothers have inadequate knowledge regarding diarrheal management and only (30%) of the mothers have moderately adequate knowledge regarding diarrheal management and (3.33%) of the mothers were having adequate knowledge. The overall percentage mean of mothers regarding diarrheal management is 9.6% and standard deviation 2.967%. The findings reveal that is no statistical significance between the knowledge of mothers with under five children regarding diarrheal management and demographic variables. The analysis and findings of various facts oral rehydration solution related to mother's knowledge on management of diarrhea reveals an urgent need for educating providing assistance to the mothers.

Index Terms—Diarrheal Management

I. INTRODUCTION

Diarrheal disease in children is a common clinical illness, is a self-limited disease with many etiologies. Diarrhea is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children in developing countries. About 80% of deaths due to diarrhea occur in children below 2 years, where the diarrhea remains the second leading cause of death among under five children globally. Diarrheal disease kills 1.5 million children every year. Nearly one in five child death- about 2.2 million each year is due to diarrhea.

II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding diarrheal management among mothers of under five children in selected hospital at Enathur, Kanchipuram.

III. METHODOLOGY

Research Design: A descriptive design.

Research Setting: The present study was conducted in pediatric ward at MMCH & RI

Population: The target population of the present study was the mothers of under five children. The accessible population in this study was children's mothers who were admitted in MMCH & RI during the data collection period.

Sample: The investigator conducted the study at MMCH & RI, pediatric ward. The Sample size for the present study was 60 mothers whose children's are diagnosed as acute gastro enteritis (AGE) and the children age group between is from 0-5 years.

Sampling Technique: The participants for the present study were selected by non-probability convenient sampling technique in which the researcher selects participants based on the inclusion criteria and the mothers who were available at the period of data collection.

Sampling Criteria:

Inclusion Criteria

The study included the mothers

- who had under five children
- who were admitted in MMCH & RI
- who were willing to participate

Exclusion Criteria

The study excluded the mothers

- who were not having under five children
- who were not willing to participate
- who are not in the ward during data collection

Selection and Development of Study Instrument: As the study is aimed at assessing the knowledge of under children mother's regarding diarrheal management of under five children, the data collection instruments and the information was developed through an extensive review of literature, consultation with experts and opinion of faculty members.

The researcher developed a demographic variable Performa and structured interview schedule to assess the level of knowledge of mothers regarding diarrheal management.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

Demographic variable Performa consisted of age of the child,

gender, number of children, income of the family, educational status, occupation, type of family, type of house and source of information obtained regarding diarrheal management.

Deals with structured questionnaire to assess the level of knowledge regarding diarrheal management among mothers of under five children.

- The structured interview schedule was prepared carefully considering the language, clarity, organization and sequence of items .The questions were selected and four options were given below the each question.
- The structured questionnaire consisted of 25 multiple choice questions on knowledge regarding diarrheal management each question had four options which included the right answer .the participants were free to choose any options for each question every correct answer was assigned a score of ‘1’ and wrong answers a score of ‘0’ .The total score of structured interview schedule was 25 .the knowledge score were classified into 3 levels.

A. Scoring Technique

The level of knowledge among mothers of under five children is categorized as follows,

TABLE I
LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE

Score	Percentage	Level of knowledge
<10	<50%	Inadequate
10-17	51-75%	Moderately adequate
18-25	>76%	Adequate

B. Data Collection Method

Collecting the data from one person to other person is called as data collection. Method of data collection is structured interview schedule using a structured questionnaire method.

C. Data Analysis

Data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Data analysis includes chi-square test, ‘t’ test , mean and standard deviation.

V. RESULTS

TABLE II
FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE OF MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN REGARDING DIARRHEAL MANAGEMENT (N= 60)

Level of knowledge	F	P
Inadequate < 50	40	66.66%
Moderately adequate ≥51-75	18	30%
Adequate ≥76-100	2	3.33%

The above Table depicts that majority 66.66% of the mothers have inadequate knowledge regarding diarrheal management and only 30% of the mothers have moderately adequate knowledge regarding diarrheal management and 3.33% of the mothers were having adequate knowledge.

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TABLE III
COMPARISON OF MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION OF KNOWLEDGE SCORES OF MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN REGARDING DIARRHEAL MANAGEMENT

Group	knowledge	
	Mean	SD
Mothers of under five children	9.6	2.967

The mean and standard deviation of knowledge is (M=9.6, S.D=2.967)

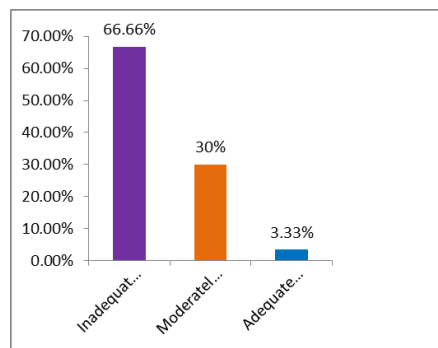


Fig. 1. Percentage distribution of level of knowledge of mothers of under five children regarding diarrheal management

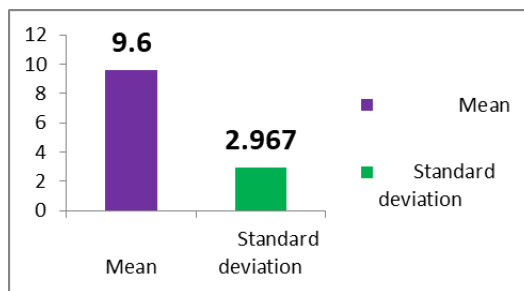


Fig. 2. Comparison of mean and standard deviation of knowledge scores of mothers of under five children regarding diarrheal management

VI. DISCUSSION

Majority (66.66%) of the mothers have inadequate knowledge regarding diarrheal management and only (30%) of the mothers have moderately adequate knowledge regarding diarrheal management and (3.33%) of the mothers were having adequate knowledge. The overall percentage mean of mothers regarding diarrheal management is 9.6% and standard deviation 2.967%. The findings reveal that is no statistical significance between the knowledge of mothers with under five children regarding diarrheal management and demographic variables. The analysis and findings of various facts oral rehydration solution related to mothers knowledge on management of diarrhea reveals an urgent need for educating providing assistance to the mothers.

VII. IMPLICATIONS

A. Nursing Practice

Nursing students should develop skill in identifying the

need for health education and its proper implementation. Adequate training and supervision should be provided to the nursing students. Organize health education sessions to mothers regarding diarrheal management by nurses in hospitals and community level should also be provided. So this will help in creating awareness about healthy practices by mother which in turn and promote the growth and development of children. Apart from individual education, scheduled public lectures can be helpful through radio and television program.

B. Nursing Education

With the emerging health care trends, nursing education has an important task of developing good teaching skills in student nurse. The nursing students should be taught about the importance of diarrheal management. Nurse educators should take initiatives to disseminate the knowledge regarding diarrheal management as an in-service education. The curriculum of nursing student should emphasis on the care of children with diarrhea in emerging pediatric care and in community health nursing.

C. Nursing Research

There is a need for extensive and intensive research in this area. Further research can be conducted in the area of practice and attitude of mother's regarding diarrheal management on other age groups. Instructional materials are to be prepared to increase the awareness of mothers regarding the home accidents. Further studies can be conducted among nurses on care and observation of children with diarrhea in young children during hospitalization.

D. Nursing Administration

Adequate time, materials and other sources should be provided to the nurses for giving health education regarding diarrheal management. Special care units should be provided to ensure proper care to children with diarrhea. Necessary in-

service education is to be provided to the nursing personnel at various levels to make them aware of importance of diarrheal management in order to update their knowledge. This will enable them to provide health education to the mothers on diarrheal management among under five children.

Health education should be a part of the job description of various categories of nursing personnel and plan educational programme for prevention of home accidents at national, intermediate and community level.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The findings of the study indicated that mother needs knowledge in diarrheal management. Mother is the best provider of care in all health aspects of the children excavated results shown that there is inadequacy of knowledge on diarrheal management among under five mothers. From the above results we conclude that health education is the best intervention to improve the mother's knowledge.

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