DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING PREVENTION OF ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS AMONG MOTHERS OF UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN AT SELECTED VILLAGE IN MOGA, PUNJAB

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ABSTRACT

Acute Respiratory Infection may cause inflammation of respiratory tract anywhere from nose to alveoli, with wide range of combination of sign and symptoms. The present study was aimed to seek knowledge and prevention of mothers of under-five children regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection.

The objectives of the present study are: —

to assess the knowledge of the mothers of under-five year children, to find out the relationship between knowledge and selected demographic variables and to develop an information booklet regarding acute respiratory infection. Subjects were selected by convenient sampling technique and sample size was 60. The knowledge of mothers of under-five year children was assessed by self structured questionnaire. The study was conducted in the month of Feb 2016. Analysis of the data was done by using descriptive and inferential statistics. The knowledge score was significant at p<0.005 level.

Conclusion: Majority of mothers of under-five children (60%) had average knowledge regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection; only 7% of mothers of under-five children were found having good knowledge, 33% mothers were in the below average category regarding knowledge about acute respiratory infection. In the present study education of husband, occupation of husband, occupation of mother, monthly income, source of information were found having significant impact on knowledge level of mothers, whereas, age in years, types of family and mother's education had no impact on knowledge level of mothers regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection.

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INTRODUCTION

Acute Respiratory infections may cause inflammation of the respiratory tract anywhere from nose to alveoli, with a wide range of combination of symptoms and signs. Infections of the respiratory tract are perhaps the most common human ailment. While they are a source of discomfort, disability and a loss of time for most adults, they are a substantial cause of morbidity and mortality in young children and the elderly. Many of these infections run their natural course in older children and in adults without specific treatment and without complications. However, in young infants, small children and in the elderly, or in persons with impaired respiratory tract functions, it increases the morbidity and mortality rates.[1]

Every year acute respiratory infection in young children is responsible for an estimated 3.9 million deaths worldwide. It is estimated that Bangladesh, India, Indonesia and Nepal together account for 40 per cent of the global ARI mortality. About 90 per cent of the ARI deaths are due to pneumonia which is usually bacterial in origin. The incidence of ARI is similar in developed and developing countries. However, while the incidence of pneumonia in developed countries may be as low as 3-4 per cent, its incidence in developing countries range between 20 to 30 per cent. This difference is due to the high prevalence of malnutrition, lo1w birth weight and indoor air pollution in developing countries. [2]

A study on acute respiratory infections was conducted to assess and account for a very high morbidity and mortality amongst children in the developing countries. A knowledge, attitude and practice study in relation to literacy status of mothers whose children suffered from Acute Respiratory Infections was conducted. A sample of 140 mothers who had 265 children, were selected for the study. The majority of literate mothers (75%) had complete knowledge regarding management of Acute Respiratory Infections. Most women (89.3%) had obtained their knowledge regarding Acute Respiratory Infections through medical and paramedical staff.[3]

PURPOSE OF STUDY

To assess the knowledge of mothers of under-five children regarding prevention of acute respiratory infection

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge regarding prevention of acute respiratory infection among mothers of under-five children.
2. To find out relationship between knowledge and selected demographic variables such as age, education of mother, education of husband, occupation of mother, occupation of husband, monthly income, type of family and source of information.
3. To develop an informational booklet regarding acute respiratory infection.

DELIMITATION

The study was limited to:

- Mothers of under-five children.
- Those mothers who could understand Punjabi.
- Those mothers who were willing to participate in study.
- Assessment of knowledge only, of mothers.

METHODOLOGY

Research approach; a non experiment quantitative approach

Research design; descriptive research design

Research setting; the study was conducted in Talwandi Bhangeriya village of Moga. Punjab.

Target population: The target population in the present study was the mothers of under-five children.

Sample and sampling technique: 60 mothers of under-five children at Talwandi bhangeriya village of Moga, Punjab were selected by using Convenient Sampling Technique.

Demographic variables: In the present study the demographic variables are age in years, education of mother, education of husband, occupation of mother, occupation of husband, monthly income, type of family and source of information.

Research variables: the research variable is knowledge of mothers of under-five children.

Inclusion criteria:

The mothers of under-five children who were living in village Talwandi Bhangerian of Moga, Punjab.

The mothers of under-five children who were willing to participate in this study.

Mothers who can understand both Punjabi and English.

Exclusion criteria:

Mothers of under-five children who were not willing to participate in the study.

Mothers of under-five children who were not present during the data collection period.

Development of the tool; the tool used for this study was self-structured interview schedule.

Description of tool: Section - A consists of items for obtaining personal information about subjects such as age in year, monthly income, education of husband, education of mother, type of family, occupation of husband, occupation of mother, religion and source of information.

Section - B consists of multiple choice questions regarding acute respiratory infection. A total of 30 questions are included and each right question carries one mark and wrong answers carry ZERO marks. Each question had four given responses out of which the respondent had to choose the correct one. So, the maximum score was 30 and minimum score was 0.

Data collection procedure: Data collection was done in the month of February, 2016. Prior to giving the questionnaire, the investigator gave instructions to the mother and stated the purpose of gathering information. They were assured that their responses will be kept confidential and used for research purpose only.

The sample consisted on 30 mothers of an under-five children group. Convenient sampling technique was used to select sample from the population. The personal information of all the mothers of under-five children was taken first. The multiple choice questionnaires were used to assess the knowledge of mothers of under-five children.

DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETION

Section 1: Demographic characteristics of mothers of under-five children tested regarding knowledge on Acute Respiratory Infection

Table - 1

N=60

Sl. No.	**CHARACTERISTICS**	n	%
1.	**Age in Years**		
	18-23	20	33
	24-29	36	60
	30-35	04	07
	Above 35	—	
2.	**Education of mother**		
	Illiterate	22	37
	Primary	12	20
	Middle	08	13
	Matric	12	20
	Graduate	06	10
3.	**Education of husband**		
	Illiterate	14	23
	Primary	22	37
	Middle	10	17
	Matric	08	13
	Graduate	06	10
4.	**Occupation of mother**		
	Unemployed	46	77

	Service women	—	—
	Labour	14	23
	Business women	—	—
5.	**Occupation of husband**		
	Unemployed	—	—
	Servicemen	16	27
	Labour	38	63
	Businessmen	06	10
6.	**Monthly Income**		
	Less than 5000	40	66
	5000-10000	16	27
	10000-15000	04	07
	Above 15000	—	—
7.	**Type of family**		
	Nuclear	32	53
	Joint	28	47
	Extended	—	—
8.	**Source of Information**		
	Family members & friends	08	13
	Neighbours	10	17
	Multimedia	42	70
	Health Personnel	—	—

Objective No. 1: To assess the knowledge regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection among mothers of under-five children.

Table - 2

Level of Knowledge regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection among mothers of under-five children

N=60

Level of Knowledge	Score level	%	n	%
Good knowledge	23-30	76-100	04	07
Average knowledge	16-22	51-75	36	60
Below average knowledge	<15	<50	20	33

Maximum score= 30

Minimum score= 0

Table - 2 depicts that most of the mothers (60%) of under-five children had average knowledge score; only 7% of mothers of under-five children were having good knowledge and 33% of the mothers were in below average category regarding knowledge about acute respiratory infection. So, it is concluded that most of mothers were having average knowledge regarding acute respiratory infection. So, it is needed to enhance their knowledge that can prevent acute respiratory infection in children.

Conclusion: Majority of mothers (60%) of under-five children had average knowledge regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection, only 7% of mothers of under-five children were found having good knowledge and 33% mothers were in the below average category regarding knowledge about acute respiratory infection. In the present study education of husband, occupation of husband, occupation of mother, monthly income, source of information, were found having significant impact on knowledge level of mothers, whereas, age in

years, types of family and mother's education had no impact on knowledge level of mothers, regarding prevention of Acute Respiratory Infection.

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