

KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE ON IMMUNIZATION AMONG RURAL MOTHERS OF UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN IN ROHTAK DISTRICT OF HARYANA

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ABSTRACT

Immunization is one of the most effective, safest and efficient Public Health Interventions. It is a highly cost-effective way of improving child survival in developing countries. Universal immunization of children against six vaccine preventable diseases such as tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough (pertussis), tetanus, polio, and measles is crucial to reducing infant and child mortality. Despite India being a leading producer of vaccines, it harbours one-third of the world's unimmunized children. The objectives of this study are to assess the knowledge and attitude among rural mothers of under-5 children on immunization; and find out the association of knowledge and attitude with selected socio-demographic variables as well as educate the mothers regarding importance of immunization. It was found that 84% of the mothers had moderately adequate knowledge, 11% had adequate knowledge and only 5% had inadequate knowledge on immunization. 69% of the mothers had favourable attitude and 31% had unfavourable attitude towards child immunization. No significant association was seen between the knowledge regarding immunization among rural mothers of under-five children and their occupation, number of children, immunization status, source of information and place of delivery. Only education status and type of family were found to be significantly associated with the knowledge. Similarly, there is no significant association of attitude regarding immunization among rural mothers of under-five with age of mothers, no of children, source of information, type of family and place of delivery. Only education status and occupation were found to be significantly associated with the attitude. Lack of adequate knowledge on immunization among rural mothers of under-five children was found in Lakhan Majra block of Rohtak district. The study concludes that the attitude of mothers towards immunization of under-five children is positive.

Key words: Knowledge, Attitude, Under-five children, Immunization.

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PREVALENCE OF ANAEMIA AND EFFECT OF SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS, BMI AND DIET IN YOUNG EDUCATED FEMALES ATTENDING OPD IN A HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL IN SOUTH DELHI, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional community-based survey on 60 educated, apparently healthy, adult females aged 18-25 years who accompanied the patients visiting the OPD during October 2013 to January 2014 was done. The objective was to study the prevalence of anaemia in young adult females of 18-25 years and effect of socio-demographic factors, Body Mass Index (BMI) and diet in them. Patients who agreed, were subjected to detailed pre-test questionnaire including socio-demographic data, anaemia awareness and dietary habits. Anthropometry and clinical examination was followed by Hb% estimation and peripheral smear examination. Statistical analysis was done using chi-square test, student -t-test, mean, standard error, etc. Anaemic prevalence was found to be 45% with mean Hemoglobin 10.7g/dl, majority (88.9%) having mild iron deficiency anaemia and 83% were unaware of anaemia. A statistically significant difference was found in BMI of anaemics and non-anaemics as anaemia increased with decrease in BMI. Irrespective of the socio-demographic status of the females, there is a need to generate awareness about anaemia and its future consequences.

Key words: Anaemia, Young adult female, Body Mass Index (BMI), Anaemia awareness, Socio-demographic factors.

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A COMMUNITY-BASED STUDY ON MALNUTRITION AMONG GERIATRIC PEOPLE IN A RURAL MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GUJARAT

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ABSTRACT

Geriatric population is often the most neglected, suffers from malnutrition which often goes undiagnosed and thereby, increases their vulnerability to other diseases. It further lowers the quality of life, loss of independence, increased hospitalization and deaths. So, assessment of nutrition in old age becomes very important, as interventions can be planned accordingly to prevent it. A cross-sectional study with camp approach was conducted in the rural and urban catchment areas of the Community Medicine Department. Mini nutritional assessment score was used for surveying the population and to identify their nutritional status. 59.61% of the respondents were found to have poor nutritional status. 25.38% of them were at risk of malnutrition. 66.87% females and 48% males had MNA score <17. It was further seen that 17.5% of the rural males and 20.89% of the rural females had poor nutritional status. All the urban males and females had poor nutritional status. A total of 45.76% of the study participants had BMI <19. Equal number (20%) of males and females were malnourished in rural area, while all (100%) were found malnourished in the urban area.

Key words: Geriatric population, Camp approach, Cross-sectional study, Mini nutritional assessment score.

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PSYCHO-SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF ELDERLY WOMEN OF MUTHUVAN TRIBES OF KERALA

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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of population ageing is becoming a major concern all over the world. Tribes constitute 8.61% of the total population of the country and cover about 15% of the country's area and most of them remain at the lowest stratum of the society. The elderly women in tribes are the most vulnerable and marginalized section. The study was conducted amongst the elderly women in Muthuvan tribal community of Urangattri Gram Panchayat, Areacode Block, Malappuram District of Kerala. The research design was descriptive and quantitative inputs were used. Data were collected through interview of the elderly women by using an interview schedule, and observation techniques were also used. The research result was found that 50 per cent of the respondents belong to the age group 60-64 years. 83 per cent of them belongs to nuclear families. 93 per cent of the respondents are illiterate and 83 per cent of them had a monthly income between Rs. 1000 and 2000. It is seen that half of the respondents' health condition was poor. Though half of the respondents were not depressed, more than half of them had a feeling of isolation/loneliness. Majority of the respondents opined that they need sufficient money or financial security for future life.

Key words: Elderly, Elderly women, Psycho-social problems, Muthuvan tribes, Kerala.

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NEEDLE STICK INJURIES AND SHARP INSTRUMENT ACCIDENTS AMONG HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN AN EVOLVING TERTIARY CARE TEACHING HOSPITAL OF WESTERN UTTAR PRADESH

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ABSTRACT

Needle Stick Injuries (NSIs) are associated with a small but significant risk to health care professionals' career, health, families and also patients. NSIs are preventable. The study was undertaken to determine the occurrence of NSIs among different categories of HCWs, factors/causes/circumstances under which these occur so that site-specific intervention strategies to prevent them could be developed. The present cross-sectional study was carried out among the health care workers of Major S. D. Singh Medical College during November 2013-April 2014. A self-designed, semi-structured interview schedule was used to collect data from the participants to identify predictive factors associated with NSIs. Out of the total 231 HCWs, 73.6% gave a history of NSIs in the preceding one year. It was seen that nurses were most prone (>90%) to NSIs. Two most common activities to precipitate the NSIs were recapping the needle (62%) and blood withdrawal (60%). It was observed that majority (50%) of the HCWs received NSIs post-use but prior to the disposal of the needles. After an NSI, majority (66%) of the HCWs took action instantly while 19% took action later on the same day and remaining 15% did not take any action. Majority (41%) of the HCWs washed with water and soap in response to needle stick injuries. Only one HCW took post-exposure prophylaxis. NSIs were observed among all categories of HCWs and knowledge of HCWs about the risks associated with NSIs and use of preventive measures was not up to the mark. A robust NSIs surveillance mechanism must be developed in the hospital along with other preventive strategies.

Key words: Needle stick injury, Health care workers, Disposal practices, Post-exposure prophylaxis

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MATERNAL MORBIDITY ON URBAN FRINGE

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ABSTRACT

For every maternal death, there exist about 100 episodes of morbidity. In this research, an attempt is made to understand the extent of maternal morbidity, expressed as symptoms for pregnancies in past three years and seeking treatment by the respondents. The respondents were young women; 10 per cent were pregnant at the time of the study and the rest had delivered within the reference period. Forty-eight per cent of them reported some maternal health problem with average of 2 symptoms. The symptoms were swelling on hands and feet (62), dizziness (41) and lower abdominal pain (35). More serious symptoms included premature labour (14), heavy bleeding (2), convulsions (21) and abnormal position (3) and/or weak movements of foetus (5). Some of these possibly lead to anaemia, haemorrhage, toxemia/eclampsia and obstructed labour which are the leading causes of maternal mortality. Still, treatment seeking by the respondents was low. Complete ANC was taken by only 43 per cent of women. Problems were reported more by young women with no ANC and having higher order births. Extent of pregnancy wastage was found to be more in the current study as compared to some earlier studies.

Key words: Maternal health problems, Pregnancy wastage, Fringe.

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PERCEPTION OF SERVICE QUALITY AMONG OUTPATIENT ATTENDERS OF A SECONDARY CARE HOSPITAL IN DELHI

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ABSTRACT

To assess clients' perception of quality among OPD attenders in a secondary care hospital in Delhi and to identify the factors associated with these perceptions, this hospital-based cross-sectional study was undertaken. The study was conducted among outpatient attenders of Satyawadi Raja Harish Chandra Hospital (SRHC), Narela, Delhi. A total of 387 patients availing health facilities at the OPD of SRHC Hospital were interviewed using a structured questionnaire. The study revealed that 94.1% of the study subjects perceived the OPD service quality as good. The regression results showed that medical information, doctor behaviour and medicine availability had the biggest impact on overall satisfaction of the study subjects. 31.3% of the study subjects suggested that medicine availability in the hospital should be improved. The perception of quality of health services was considered as good by most of the study subjects. Overall satisfaction was found to be highly associated with medicine availability, medical information provided by doctors, staff behaviour, doctor behaviour and hospital infrastructure on univariate analysis. On multivariate analysis, medical information provided by doctors, doctor behaviour, medicine availability and staff behaviour were found to be associated. No significant association was found between the service quality perceived by the OPD attenders of SRHC Hospital and various socio-demographic variables.

Key words: Service quality, Outpatient attenders, Secondary care, Hospital.

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