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KNOWLEDGE REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF IMMUNIZATION AMONG PARENTS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN IN A SELECTED COMMUNITY AREA OF DEHRADUN, UTTRAKHAND, WITH A VIEW TO CONDUCT AN AWARENESS PROGRAMME

Nursing

Geetanjali Aswal Staff Nurse, Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Jollygrant, D.Dun, Uttarakhand.

Divyansh Negi Staff Nurse, Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Jollygrant, D.Dun, Uttarakhand.

Monika Raturi Staff Nurse, Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Jollygrant, D.Dun, Uttarakhand.

Shikha Mishra Staff Nurse, Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Jollygrant, D.Dun, Uttarakhand.

Chandan Kumar* Nursing Tutor, Himalayan College of Nursing, SRHU, Jollygrant, D.Dun, Uttarakhand. *Corresponding Author

Suresh Vinayak Nursing Tutor, Himalayan College of Nursing, SRHU, Jollygrant, D.Dun, Uttarakhand.

ABSTRACT

Background: Immunization provides resistance to infectious diseases by administration of vaccine. According to WHO in 2016 the under five child mortality rate was 45 per 1000 live births in India. The child mortality rate in Uttarakhand was 32 per 1000 live births in 2013 as per the survey conducted by the registrar general of India.
Objective: To assess knowledge regarding importance of immunization among parents of under five children.
Methodology: A quantitative Research Approach was used with non experimental descriptive research design. Research was conducted among 100 parents of under five children in Dehradun, selected using convenient sampling technique. Data was collected through structured knowledge questionnaire. Awareness programme was conducted to increase awareness regarding immunization.
Result: 49% samples had good knowledge, 33% had excellent knowledge and 18% had poor knowledge about the immunization.
Conclusion: There is a need to increase awareness regarding under five immunization.

KEYWORDS

Under five immunization

INTRODUCTION:

Immunization is one of the most effective, safest and efficient public health interventions. It forms the major focus of child survival programmes throughout the world. Every country included immunization in their health system goals but still there are many people who did not get immunized due to lack of awareness. Immunization is the process whereby a person is made immune to an infectious disease, typically by administration not a vaccine (WHO). In May 1974 the WHO officially launched a global immunization programme known as Expended Programme of Immunization (EPI), to protect all the children of the world against six vaccine preventable diseases namely- Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus, Polio, Tuberculosis and Measles by the year 2000. National family health survey (2010-2011) reports that only 43.5% of children in India received all of their vaccine by 12 months of age. Main reason identified for poor coverage includes inadequacy of community participation in routine immunization. Vaccines are protecting more children than ever before, but in 2015, nearly one in five infants-19.4 millions misses out on the basic vaccines they need to stay healthy.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

Quantitative approach with non experimental research design was used to assess knowledge regarding importance of immunization among parents of under five children. Data was collected at village Thano, Doiwala, Dehradun, Uttarakhand in June 2018. 100 parents of under five children who fulfilled the inclusion criteria were selected by using non probability convenient sampling technique. Before data collection participants were explained about the procedure and purpose of the study & written informed consent was obtained. Data was collected by using structured knowledge questionnaire. Awareness programme regarding immunization was conducted for the parents of under five children. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to describe the results of the study.

RESULTS:

Table no. 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of study participants according to their demographic variables.

(n=100)

S.NO.	DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1	**Age**		
	• 20-30	82	82%
	• 31-40	18	18%
2	**Gender**		
	• MALE	25	25%
	• FEMALE	75	75%
3	**Income (per month)**		
	• <20000 Rs	84	84%
	• >20000 Rs	16	16%
4	**Under 5 child in family**		
	• ONE	73	73%
	• MORE THAN ONE	27	27%
5	**Mothers Education**		
	• EDUCATED	80	80%
	• NO FORMAL EDUCATION	20	20%
6	**Fathers education**		
	• EDUCATED	89	89%
	• NO FORMAL EDUCATION	11	11%
7	**Fathers Occupation**		
	• EMPLOYED	52	52%
	• SELF EMPLYOED	48	48%
8	**Mothers Occupation**		
	• WORKING	22	22%
	• NON WORKING	78	78%
9	**Family Type**		
	• JOINT	51	51%
	• NUCLEAR	49	49%
10	**Religion**		
	• HINDU	76	76%
	• OTHER	24	24%
11	**Previous knowledge regarding immunization**		
	• YES	95	95%
	• NO	5	5%
12	**Place of birth**		
	• HOSPITAL	86	86%
	• HOME DELIVERY	14	14%
13	**Immunization centre**		
	• GOV.HOSPITAL	93	93%
	• PRIVATE HOSPITAL	7	7%
14	**Distance from immunization centre**		
	• <3km	74	74%
	• >3km	26	26%

Table no. 1 shows that majority (82%) of the participants were aged between 20-30years of age. Most (75%) of respondents were females. Majority (84%) of participants has income less than Rs 20,000 per month. Majority (73%) of participants have only one under five child. Majority (80%) of participants mother are educated and (89%) of father are educated. Majority (52%) of father are employed and (78%) of the mother are non-working. Majority (51%) of the family is joint family. Most (76%) of the family are Hindu. (95%) of the participants have the knowledge about the immunization. Majority (86%) of child were delivered at hospital and (93%) of child are immunized at government hospital. Major (74%) have distance of immunization centre less than 3 km.

Section B- Frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding immunization among parents of under five children.

(n=100)

S.NO	Knowledge level	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Poor(7-10)	18	18%
2	Good (11-14)	49	49%
3	Excellent(15-18)	33	33%

Table no 2. Represent the distribution of knowledge regarding immunization among parents of under five children. Majorities (49%) of participants has good knowledge and minority (18%) has poor knowledge regarding immunization.

Table no. 3- Mean, Mean percentage and Standard deviation.

(n=100)

S.N.	Variable	Range of score	Mean+ S.D	Median	Mean %
1	Knowledge score	7-18= 11	14.18+2.167	14	14.18

Max. Score=18
Min. score=7

Table no. 3 Illustrate that obtained knowledge score 14.18+2.167 with the range from 7-18 whereas median was 14 and mode was 13. Hence from the obtained mean, median, and mode it can be inferred that group was normally distributed.

Section C- Knowledge assessment and Association between level of knowledge with their selected demographic variable.

S.No.	Demographic profile	Below median	Above median	Chi-square	P value
1	**Age**				
	• 20-30	31	51	0.644	0.422
	• 31-40	5	13		
2	**Gender**				
	• MALE	5	20	3.704	0.054
	• FEMALE	31	44		
3	**Income**				
	• <20000	31	53	0.817	0.666
	• >20000	5	11		
4	**Under 5 child**				
	• ONE	27	46	0.114	0.735
	• MORE THAN ONE	9	18		
5	**Mothers Education**				
	• EDUCATED	31	49	1.313	0.252
	• UNEDUCATED	5	15		
6	**Fathers education**				
	• EDUCATED	35	54	3.884	0.049*
	• UNEDUCATED	1	10		
7	**Fathers occupation**				
	• EMPLOYED	19	33	0.014	0.907
	• SELF EMPLYOED	17	31		
8	**Mothers occupation**				
	• WORKING	4	18	3.887	0.777f
	• NON WORKING	32	46		
9	**Family Type**				
	• JOINT	20	31	0.469	0.494
	• NUCLEAR	16	33		
10	**Religion**				
	• HINDU	30	46	1.658	0.198
	• OTHER	6	18		
11	**Previous Knowledge regarding immunization**				
	• YES	34	61	0.037	0.848
	• NO	2	3		
12	**Place of birth**				
	• HOSPITAL	31	55	0.001	0.981
	• HOME DELIVERY	5	9		
13	**Immunization centre**				
	• GOV. HOSPITAL	33	60	0.154	0.695
	• PRIVATE HOSPITAL	3	4		
14	**Distance from immunization centre**				
	• <3km	30	44	2.547	0.111
	• >3km	6	20		

Table no: - 4 Shows that the knowledge score of the study participants was not significantly associated with the demographic variables except with fathers education with level of knowledge (0.049)

DISCUSSION

According to the present study findings, majority (49%) of the total participants were having good knowledge regarding importance of immunization. This finding is supported by a study conducted by **Marskole P., Rawat R.,Chouhan P., Sahu P., Choudhary R., (2016),** on knowledge, attitude, and practice on vaccination among 150 mothers of under five children in Gwalior MP. The collection of data is done with help of questioner. The result revealed that 123(82%) mothers knew about benefits of immunization. Moreover out of 150 mothers 86 % (129) had completed their child's immunization in time, whereas 14 %(21) had delayed immunization or incomplete immunization. The study finding concluded that 86% immunization is established with 90% awareness level of participants in the study. This need to be increased to reach maximum coverage of vaccination.

CONCLUSION:

The Knowledge of parents regarding immunization is important in reducing the infant and child mortality and morbidity due to six killer diseases and enhancing the growth and development of children. Based on finding of the study, it was concluded that the nearby Half of parents (49%) had good knowledge regarding immunization, but there is a need of further awareness to gain 100% result.

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