



A Descriptive Study To Assess The Paternal Knowledge On Maternal Care And Requirements During Pregnancy At A Selected Tertiary Care Hospital, Kelambakkam, Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu, India

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ABSTRACT

A descriptive study was carried out to assess the paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements during pregnancy in a selected Tertiary care hospital, kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu, India. 30 samples were selected using a convenience sampling technique. A Structured Self administered Questionnaire was used to assess the Paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements during pregnancy. The study findings revealed that 93% of the samples had inadequate knowledge while 6.6% of the samples had moderately adequate knowledge on maternal care and requirements of during pregnancy

KEYWORDS : Paternal Knowledge, Maternal care and requirements during pregnancy

INTRODUCTION

The importance of men's involvement in the women health during pregnancy is gaining importance as studies have demonstrated benefits of men's involvement in maternal health

Historically speaking, fathers have had a comparatively marginal role in the above context. Most of the Western European countries' maternal and infant health care services do however make efforts to involve the father. A quantitative study of 600 Danish fathers showed that 80% of them participated in parental preparation courses and prophylactic consultations. (**Madsen, Lind& Monck 2002**)

Few studies have been conducted to examine men's involvement in issues of maternal health care, the barriers to men's involvement, and how best to actively involve men. It is a common practice that the father is invited to attend regular prenatal check-ups as well as the parent training that is usually offered to both parents. (**Dellmann T 2003**)

In few countries, as in Scandinavia, special training groups are also offered that exclusively target fathers. Evaluations show that fathers who have taken part in these groups are very positive towards this form of training. At the same time, it is stated that the majority of the fathers who take part in these groups are first-time fathers and from the academic middle class. (**Johnson M 2000**) Despite the low level of men's involvement in maternal health care in the study communities and the challenges to men's involvement, few of the men thought they had a role to play when their wives are pregnant. Indeed, some men reported defying gender stereotypes to accompanying their wives to seek care and to providing support and encouragement to their wives during and after pregnancy and childbirth.

TITLE:

A descriptive study to assess the paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements during pregnancy in a selected Tertiary care hospital, kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu, India.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To assess the paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements during pregnancy.
- To associate the level of paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements with selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A quantitative approach with a descriptive design was used in the

study. The study was conducted in a selected tertiary care hospital, the population included the pregnant couples . A convenience sampling technique was used to select 30 samples with the following inclusion criteria viz., Male partners of the pregnant couples who are willing to participate in the study and can speak and understand Tamil or English

TOOL FOR THE STUDY:

Structured Interview Questionnaire used to to elicit the demographic variables of the Samples Structured Self administered Questionnaire to assess the Paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements of during pregnancy.

SCORING AND INTERPRETATION

S.No.	Level Of Paternal Knowledge On Maternal Care And Requirements Of During Pregnancy	Percentage (%)
1.	Inadequate Knowledge	Less than 50
2.	Moderately Adequate Knowledge	50 – 75
3.	Adequate Knowledge	More than 75

STUDY FINDINGS

The sample profile revealed that 45% of the male partners of the pregnant women were in the age group of 26-30 years, nearly 83% of the male partners were Hindus and 66% of the male partners received information on maternal care from doctors.

The study findings revealed that 93% of the samples had inadequate knowledge while 6.6% of the samples had moderately adequate knowledge on maternal care and requirements of during pregnancy.

There was no significant association between the selected demographic variables viz., age, religion, Type of Family, educational status, employment status, family income, Exposure to information on maternal care and requirement during pregnancy with the paternal knowledge on maternal care and requirements during pregnancy.

CONCLUSION

This study helps us to understand the need for paternal involvement in the maternal care, it becomes necessary to involve the male partners as and when possible during pregnancy and also to educate them on the various components of maternal care during pregnancy.

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