



TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY AMONG MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN.

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ABSTRACT

Background: Child health and development form part of the core components of the millennium development goals set by the United Nations Member States to be achieved by the year 2015. However, this laudable goal can only be fully achieved with due consideration of health surveillance of pre-school age children. Developmental delay occurs when a child does not reach developmental milestones at the expected age¹.

Objective: 1) To assess the knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children. 2) To associate the knowledge regarding developmental delay among the mothers of under five children with their demographic variable.

Methods: Present study is cross sectional research design conducted amongst 100 mothers of under five children in selected area of Wardha district.

Result: The result revealed that 05% of the mothers were having poor knowledge, 28% of them had average, 40% of them had good and only 27% of them had excellent level of knowledge score. The minimum score in was 4 and the maximum score was 19, the mean knowledge score was 12.33 ± 3.822 with a mean percentage score of 2.46 ± 0.764 .

Conclusion: The results showed that the knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children was good. There was a significant association of knowledge score in relation to mother age and education status. There was no significant association of knowledge score in relation to resident, religion and monthly income.

KEYWORDS : knowledge, developmental delay and mothers of under five children.

INTRODUCTION

A child may be affected in one or more of these domains during growth and development which underscores the importance of proper developmental screening⁵. Prevention of disabilities in infants is often beset with problems including non-detection or late identification of delayed development. A survey conducted in the United State of America revealed that, about 16% of children are affected by various disabilities caused by speech and language delay, mental retardation, learning disabilities and emotional/behavioural problems, however only 30% of such children were identified before school entrance age⁵. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), about 5% of the world's children who were below 14 years of age suffered from moderate to severe DD-associated disability most of which would have been either prevented or managed, if detected early⁶. Another study also found that 8% of all pre-school children from birth to 6 years had developmental problems and showed delay in one or more developmental domains⁷. Similarly, a related report from Central Region of Ghana indicated that 1.8% of disabilities were found among 2556 sampled Children who were less than 15 years⁸. These findings raise questions about the timelines at which these disabilities were detected and by what approach.

In the developed countries, there is a general consensus regarding the importance of monitoring children's development through systematic screening. Developmental screening is a globally adopted measure by which children at various set ages (2 to 60 months) are routinely assessed to detect those at high risk for significant unsuspected deviation from normal. The screening forms part of the key components in preventive care of children with a view to facilitate early identification and referral of the affected infants and children who need early intervention¹⁰.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To assess the knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children.
- 2) To associate the knowledge regarding developmental delay among the mothers of under five children according to demographic variable.

ASSUMPTION

The mothers of under five children may have some knowledge regarding development delay.

HYPOTHESIS

- 1) H⁰:- There will be no knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children.
- 2) H¹:- There will be good knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design: Cross-sectional research design.

Research Approach: Survey approach.

Setting of The Study: selected area of wardha..

Population: Mothers of under five children.

Sampling technique : Non Probability Convenient sampling technique.

Sample: Mothers of under five children

Sample size: 100

Inclusion Criteria:

1. Mothers having children below five years of age
2. Mothers who are willing to participate in the study
3. Mother who are available during the period of data collection

Exclusion Criteria:

1. Mothers having children more than five years of age
2. Mothers who are working in medical field.

Development of the tool: Data collection instruments consist of the following sections.

Section I- It consists of demographic variables of postnatal mothers to be participated in the study e.g. Age, residence, religion, education and monthly income.

Section II – It consist of 20 Structured question regarding knowledge related to developmental delay. Every item has 4 choices out of four option subject has to choose only one option.

RESULTS

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Percentage wise distribution of mothers of under five children according to their demographic characteristics. n=100

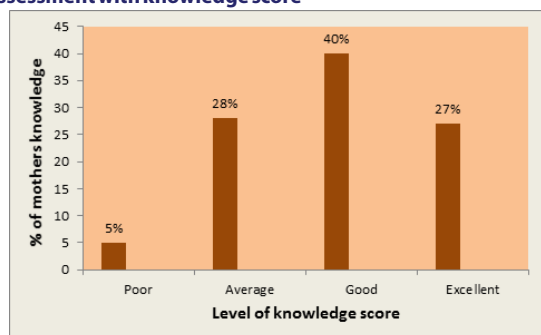
Demographic Variables	Frequency	Percentage(%)
Age(yrs)		
20-30 yrs	74	74
31-40 yrs	19	19
41-50 yrs	05	05
51years & above	01	01
Residence		
Urban	19	19
Rural	81	81
Educational Status		
Primary	14	14
Secondary	28	28
Higher Secondary	49	49
Graduate & above	09	09
Religion		
Hindu	76	76
Muslim	04	04
Christian	18	18
Buddha	02	02
Monthly Income(Rs)		
Upto 5000 Rs	49	49
5001-10000 Rs	24	24
10001-15000 Rs	13	13
15001 and above	14	14

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Assessment with knowledge score n=100

Level of knowledge score	Percentage score	Knowledge Score	
		Frequency	Percentage
Poor	0-25%	05	05
Average	26-50%	28	28
Good	51-75%	40	40
Excellent	>75%	27	27
Minimum score	04		
Maximum score	19		
Mean score	12.33 ± 3.822		
Mean %	2.46 ± 0.764		

Assessment with knowledge score



The above graph shows that 05% of the mothers were having poor knowledge, 28% of them had average, 40% of them had good and only 27% of them had excellent level of knowledge score. The minimum score in was 4 and the maximum score was 19, the mean knowledge score was 12.33 ± 3.822 with a mean percentage score of 2.46 ± 0.764. There was a significant association of knowledge score in relation to mother age and education status. There was no significant association of knowledge score in relation to resident, religion and monthly income.

DISCUSSION

The present study undertaken was 'Assessment of knowledge of developmental delay among mothers of under five children. Based

on the analysis of findings of the study, it was found that, there was more good and excellent in the knowledge scores. So it can be concluded that, the knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children was good. There was a significant association of knowledge score in relation to mother age and education status.

In a study conducted on mothers status in the family, nutritional and children growth and development status of their under five children shown that proportion of both underweight and stunting was more among children of illiterate mothers 55.2% and 55.8% while comparing with children of mothers having above primary education 41.0% and 42.9%. Thus the study shows that educated mothers take care of children more effectively reflected in better nutritional status and growth and development of their children.⁹

A study conducted by department of psychology and human development in south Nashville on maternal knowledge of child development showed, mother lacked the most knowledge about infant sleep patterns and developmental abilities. Maternal education and number of children was significantly related to maternal knowledge.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A similar study can be replicated on large scale to generalize the findings.
- A similar study can be conducted to assess the effectiveness of self instructional module regarding prevention of developmental delay.
- A comparative study can be conducted to assess the effectiveness of video assisted teaching regarding prevention of developmental delay in urban & rural area.

CONCLUSION

So it can be concluded that, the knowledge regarding developmental delay among mothers of under five children was good.

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