



"A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES ON HOME BASED CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN BETWEEN TRAINED AND UNTRAINED ASHA WORKERS IN SELECTED RURAL AREAS".

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KEYWORDS : HBYC training, ASHA workers, knowledge, practices.

INTRODUCTION

Home Based care for Young Child Programme (HBYC) is an extension of the Home Based New Born Care Programme (HBNC) under the National Health Mission to fulfill the existing gap in household contact except for immunization. It is observed that beyond three months there is a rise in problems such as discontinuation of breastfeeding, delay in the initiation, or incomplete complementary feeding, and in young children, there is a rise of the issue in seeking care for sickness. In addition, poor hygiene and sanitation and poor child-rearing practices in the home during this period may also lead to sub-optimal physical growth and development of the child.

Objectives Of The Study

Primary Objective:

To assess and compare the knowledge and practices regarding Home Based care of Young Children in trained and untrained ASHA workers.

Secondary Objective:

1. To find out the association between knowledge and selected demographic variables of trained and untrained ASHA workers.
2. To find out the association between practices and selected demographic variables of trained and untrained ASHA workers.

Methodology

The research approach used in this study was a quantitative research approach and the research design was cross-sectional descriptive. The investigator used non-probability convenience sampling to select 70 HBYC trained and 70 HBYC untrained ASHA workers. The data was collected through a structured questionnaire and self-reported checklist. Data were analyzed by frequency, percentage, mean, comparison of knowledge and practices, and association with selected demographic variables done by Chi-square test.

RESULTS

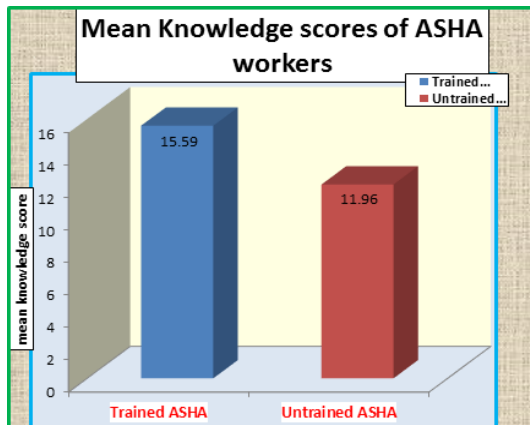


Figure 1: Mean knowledge scores of ASHA workers.

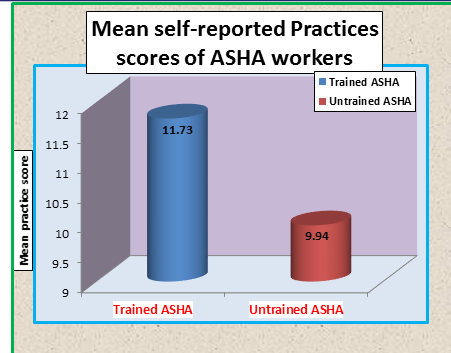


Figure 2: Mean practices scores of ASHA workers.

Table1: Comparison of the mean knowledge scores (Unpaired t-test)

Test	N	Mean	SD	t value	p value
Trained ASHA	70	11.73	1.36	6.545	0.000
Untrained ASHA	70	9.94	1.86		

Table2: Comparison of the mean self-reported practices scores (Unpaired t-test)

Test	N	Mean	SD	t value	p value
Trained ASHA	70	15.59	2.23	9.769	0.000
Untrained ASHA	70	11.96	2.13		

The untrained ASHA worker's mean knowledge score was 11.96 with a standard deviation of 2.13. The test statistics value of the unpaired t-test was 9.769 with a p-value of 0.00. Which shows that there is a statistically significant difference in knowledge of HBYC trained and untrained ASHA workers. The trained ASHA mean practices scores were 11.73 with a standard deviation of 1.36. The untrained ASHA average practice score was 9.94 with a standard deviation of 1.86. The test statistics value of the paired t-test was 6.545 with a p-value of 0.00, shows that there is a statistically significant difference in HBYC trained and untrained ASHA worker's practices. Knowledge scores of trained ASHA workers are associated with educational qualification and the practice's scores of untrained ASHA workers are associated with educational qualification.

CONCLUSION

Though untrained ASHA workers had excellent knowledge and practices, HBYC training is essential for ASHA workers to improve their practices related to HBYC.

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