



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE ON DIARRHOEA OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AMONG PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER AT SELECTED SCHOOLS

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ABSTRACT A caring and caressing the baby is the most lovable job in the world. God's creation is at its best in a baby's smile and it is the masterpiece of all arts. Childhood age is an important period in life. Most of the behaviours, health practices and positive attitudes develop during this period. Learning takes place through various institutions such as family, school, and the community. In developing health aspect, school plays an important role. School is not only the place for teaching curricula but also it is a place for cultivating healthy behaviours and habits among children. Primary school teachers are the most important institution through which packages of services including the treatment of minor problems are provided to the children by the school teachers under school health programmes. The incidence revealed 2014-2015 that 46% children suffered from diarrhoea, 17% children suffered from malnutrition, 6.49% children suffered from worm infestations, 3.83% children suffered from RTI, 2.49% children suffered from dental caries.

AIM: To assess the level of knowledge on diarrhoea of school children among primary school teachers.

MATERIAL AND METHOD: Study conducted by using the quantitative research approach by using descriptive research design was used to assess the level of knowledge on diarrhoea of school children among primary school teachers.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS USED: The collected data was organized, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted by using descriptive and inferential statistics based on the objectives of the study.

KEYWORDS : knowledge on diarrhoea, school children, primary school teachers

INTRODUCTION:

A caring and caressing the baby is the most lovable job in the world. God's creation is at its best in a baby's smile and it is the masterpiece of all arts. Childhood age is an important period in life. Most of the behaviours, health practices and positive attitudes develop during this period. Learning takes place through various institutions such as family, school, and the community. In developing health aspect, school plays an important role. School is not only the place for teaching curricula but also it is a place for cultivating healthy behaviours and habits among children. Primary school teachers are the most important institution through which packages of services including the treatment of minor problems are provided to the children by the school teachers under school health programmes. The incidence revealed 2014-2015 that 46% children suffered from diarrhoea, 17% children suffered from malnutrition, 6.49% children suffered from worm infestations, 3.83% children suffered from RTI, 2.49% children suffered from dental caries.

Diarrhoea is the second leading cause of death in children. It is defined as the passage of loose, liquid or watery stools more than three times a day. However, the consistency and character of stools is more important than the number of stools.

Approximately, 0.6 million children less than five years were killed due to diarrhoea in 2012. The current estimates in under-five suggest that about 1.4 billion episodes of diarrhoea per year with 9 million hospitalizations worldwide, with a loss of 62 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs). The cause of death due to diarrhoea is mainly dehydration which can be prevented by prompt treatment with oral fluids both home-made and commercial ORS packets. Diarrhoeal disease causes a heavy economic burden on the health services. Much attention has been given to acute diarrhoeal disease and its management over the last decade, which is dominated by advances in oral rehydration technique (ORT) and through integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI). Based on the etiology studies conducted in India, it is estimated that approximately 40% of cases of diarrhoea are due to rota-virus, however bacterial infections are also common. Epidemiological evidence shows that the important risk behaviours that encourage human contact with fecal matter include lack of hand-washing practices especially after defecation and before handling of food. Thus people can be made aware of prevention and management of diarrhoea only after assessing their current knowledge, attitude and practices.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

To assess the level of knowledge on diarrhoea of school children among primary school teachers

To find out the association between the level of knowledge on diarrhoea of school children among primary school teachers with their socio-demographic variables.

3. DETAILED RESEARCH PLAN

Research Approach: Quantitative Approach.

Research Design: Descriptive research design.

Research Setting: The setting of the study was conducted in selected schools in Nellore.

Sampling Technique: Non-probability convenience sampling techniques were adopted for selection of the subjects.

Sample Size: The sample size of the study is 30 primary school teachers.

Table 1: Score Interpretation

Score level	Interpretation
Poor knowledge	1-10
Average knowledge	11-20
Good knowledge	21-30

4. RESULTS & DISCUSSION:

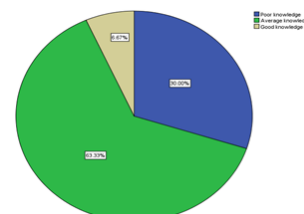
Description of demographic variables of among class IV workers

- 15(50%) of primary school teachers age between 21-25 years,
- 20(66.6%) of primary school teachers were married
- 15(50%) of primary school teachers were having DTE educational status
- 15(50%) of primary school teachers were earn income <5000
- 15(50%) of primary school teachers were having experience <5 years

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution on diarrhoea of school children among primary school teachers (N=30)

s.no	Level of knowledge	frequency	Percentage%
1	Poor knowledge	9	30
2	Average knowledge	19	63.33
3	Good knowledge	2	6.67
	Total	30	100

Table 2 regarding level of knowledge among 30 respondents 9(30%) had poor knowledge, 19(63.3%) had average knowledge, 2(6.7%) had good knowledge.



5. IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

Minor problems are very common for primary school children. It may be due to lack of knowledge and health education to the people. Improving knowledge among primary school teachers is a vital component in primary prevention of diarrhea among school children

Nursing Practice

- This study helps community health nurses are in the best position to control diarrhea among school children
- This study helps instead of the active participation of the nurses in school health education programme, the teachers can also be involved in health education process.
- This study helps to provide good standards for primary health teachers.

Nursing Education

Educational programmes should emphasize more on control of diarrhea.

This self instructional module can be re modified and used as a teaching material for school teachers, health visitors, anganwadi workers and ANM students

Nursing Administration

- Nursing administration should organize in service education / workshop/ simulation /CNE/ Seminar to assess knowledge on diarrhea of school children among primary school teachers

Nursing Research

- Extensive research can be carried out to assess the level of knowledge among primary school teachers
- The study be valuable reference and pathway for future researcher.

Nursing recommendation:

- A similar study can be conducted in different community to find out the significant difference between rural and urban primary school teachers.
- A survey on knowledge of first aid management could be done among general public or on mothers.
- The same study can be conducted in the large sample size

6. Conclusion

Regarding level of knowledge among 30 respondents 9(30%) had poor knowledge, 19(63.3%) had average knowledge, 2(6.7%) had good knowledge. Hence the study concluded that school teachers are having average knowledge especially in some aspects personal hygiene, crowding, hand washing, food practices among primary school teachers in selected schools, Nellore. There was necessity to meet the knowledge approaches and increase their good practices

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