



“A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE POSTNATAL MOTHERS REGARDING THE PROBLEMS OF PREMATURE BABIES ADMITTED AT NICU IN SELECTED HOSPITAL, ASSAM”.

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ABSTRACT Premature infant is an infant who was born before the end of 37th week of pregnancy. Due to some complications associated prematurity, these infants need to hospitalize in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). In recent years, factors such as assisted reproductive technology, old age pregnancy, advanced ante/postnatal diagnosis and treatments cause a rise in preterm birth rate. The rate of preterm birth in 2005 was reported 12.9 million births (9.6%) worldwide and about 11 million (85%) in Africa and Asia. The births of a premature and critically sick infant make parents experience a very stressful situation. These stress and tension may relate to lack of awareness and knowledge in care and interaction with premature infants.

KEYWORDS : Knowledge, Problems Of Premature Babies

OBJECTIVES

To assess the knowledge among the postnatal mothers regarding the problems of premature babies admitted in NICU.

To find the association between level of knowledge among the postnatal mothers regarding the problems related to premature babies with selected demographic variables.

METHOD: A Survey study was conducted among postnatal mothers regarding problems of premature babies at Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in selected Hospital, Assam. Non-probability convenience technique was used to select 30 samples. A structured questionnaire with multiple choices was used for data collection and data analysis was performed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Results: The results showed that among 30 postnatal mothers : 15 (50%) postnatal mothers were age group of 26-35 years, 18 (60%) mothers have two number of children , 18 (60%) mothers had second pregnancy, 12(35%) mothers educational qualification was matriculation, 30 (100%) mothers had sources of information regarding problems of premature babies, 12(45%) mothers were getting the information from friends and 15(50%) mothers monthly family income was 10,000-15,000.

It also showed that majority of the postnatal mothers i.e. 23(77%) postnatal mothers had average knowledge and 7(23%) postnatal mothers had good knowledge regarding problems of premature babies. There was no significant association between the level of knowledge among the postnatal mothers of premature babies with selected socio-demographic variables.

N=30

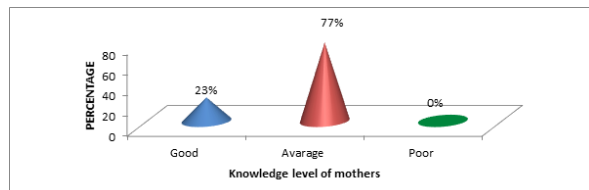


Fig. 1 : Graphical representation of knowledge level of postnatal mothers regarding problems of premature babies

CONCLUSION

The researcher concluded that most of the postnatal mothers who's premature babies were admitted in NICU have an average knowledge regarding problems of premature babies. The study helped the researcher to plan further intervention programme for improving the

knowledge of the mothers.

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