



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE ATTITUDE TOWARDS DIFFICULTIES FACED DURING ANTENATAL VISITS IN PANDEMIC SITUATION AMONG ANTENATAL MOTHERS AT SMVMCH, PUDUCHERRY.

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ABSTRACT The COVID-19 pandemic is posing considerable challenges for countries to maintain the provision of high quality, essential maternal and newborn health services. Pregnant women and mothers with newborns may experience difficulties accessing services due to transport disruptions and lockdown measures or be reluctant to come to health facilities due to fear of infection. Thus, a modest decline of 10% in coverage of pregnancy related and newborn health-care services were reported due to pandemics. This would result in 28,000 maternal deaths Anxiety and stress are prevalent psychiatric disorders that can result in negative health outcomes in the long run. The risk factors of anxiety and stress are numerous among which personal factors and genetic susceptibility are the main important ones; furthermore, the inappropriate coping with the changing environment has been identified as an important source of stress that causes anxiety as well. Pregnancy is one of the life periods with a high frequency of stress and anxiety disorders, supposed to be triggered by hormonal and physical changes, the fear of the neonate's health, giving birth, and other pregnancy-related factors. Majority of the antenatal mothers 45 (90%) had moderately favourable level of attitude, 4(8%) had unfavourable level of attitude and 1(2%) had favourable level of attitude s and the mean and standard deviation of level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers is (36.92+6.074) respectively. Therefore the study should be conducted to test the level of attitude about the difficulties faced by the antenatal mothers during the pandemic situation in SMVMCH

KEYWORDS : difficulties, antenatal visits, pandemic, antenatal mothers

INTRODUCTION

Pregnancy and Child birth are special events in women's lives and indeed in the lives of their families. This can be a time of great hope and joyful anticipation. The primary aim of antenatal care is to achieve, at the end of pregnancy, a healthy mother and healthy baby. The quality of care is more important than the quantity. Pregnancy requires specialized care generally agreed to preventive activity. Pregnancy is that wonderful period in a women's life when she spends each and every day in pleasant anticipation, waiting to hold her bundle of joy in her arms at the end of the ninth month. Every women hope for a normal pregnancy and normal delivery so that she can cradle and nurse a healthy baby. For that mother has to get proper antenatal care. The women require adequate antenatal care to ensure a normal physiological process. Minor but significant interventions like tetanus immunization, folic acid tablets, healthy diet, and good hygiene are Knowledge regarding antenatal care among primigravida mothers.

The COVID-19 pandemic is posing considerable challenges for countries to maintain the provision of high quality, essential maternal and newborn health services. Pregnant women and mothers with newborns may experience difficulties accessing services due to transport disruptions and lockdown measures or be reluctant to come to health facilities due to fear of infection. Thus, a modest decline of 10% in coverage of pregnancy related and newborn health-care services were reported due to pandemics. This would result in 28,000 maternal deaths.

The fear of transmission of and/or death from COVID-19 has influenced the community's mental health and has caused anxiety and depression for the general population Furthermore, using personal protective equipment (PPE) and other observing safety precautions, such as social distancing and staying indoor as much as possible, are other sources of mental health impairment, due to feeling of loneliness and lack of face-to-face communications. The fear of contamination with COVID-19 is more serious in hospitals and medical centers and strict precautions are recommended for the health care workers (HCW) and the rest of personnel. Pregnant mothers should routinely be referred to medical centers for prenatal care and receiving maternity services and are thus at a higher risk of contamination.

Anxiety and stress are prevalent psychiatric disorders that can result in

negative health outcomes in the long run. The risk factors of anxiety and stress are numerous among which personal factors and genetic susceptibility are the main important ones; furthermore, the inappropriate coping with the changing environment has been identified as an important source of stress that causes anxiety as well. Pregnancy is one of the life periods with a high frequency of stress and anxiety disorders, supposed to be triggered by hormonal and physical changes, the fear of the neonate's health, giving birth, and other pregnancy-related factors.

AIM OF THE STUDY:

The aim of the study was to assess the attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers.

OBJECTIVE:

- To assess the level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers.
- To associate between the levels of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers with their selected demographic variables.

ASSUMPTION:

- Antenatal mothers will have the unfavorable attitude regarding the antenatal visit during the pandemic situation
- Antenatal mothers will have the favorable attitude regarding the antenatal visit during the pandemic situation.

METHODOLOGY:

The research approach used for this study was quantitative research approach. A descriptive research design was used to assess the level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers at SMVMCH, Pondicherry. By using convenience sampling technique 50 sample was selected for the present study. The tool consists of demographic data and attitude scale.

RESEARCH DESIGN:

A descriptive Research Design was adapted for this study.

RESEARCH SETTING:

The study will be conducted at Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical

College and Hospital, as it consist of 1050-bedded hospital in Puducherry. The population of the study antenatal mothers visiting antenatal OPD at SMVMCH, Puducherry. sample size is the number of subjects involved in the study. Sample size consist of 50 antenatal mothers. Sampling refers to the process of selecting a portion of the population to represent the entire population. Sampling technique chosen was convenience sampling.

DESCRIPTION OF TOOL:

The tool used for this study consists of 2 sections namely,

SECTION A CONSISTS OF DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES:

Age , Gestational age, Religion, Education, occupation, marital status, type of family, no of children's, residence, previous history of covid - 19, PPE history, co morbid disease history, covid- 19 knowledge

SECTION B:

BY USING ATTITUDE SCALE FOR ASSESSMENT OF THE LEVEL OF ATTITUDE TOWARDS DIFFICULTIES FACED DURING ANTENATAL VISITS IN PANDEMIC SITUATION AMONG ANTENATAL MOTHERS.

In this study altitude scale was used, consists of 16 items.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

The data collection done with the permission to conduct the study was obtained from authorities of the concerned person Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital, Puducherry. 50 antenatal mothers were selected by using convenience sampling techniques and according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria and after introducing and explain the purpose of the study. The tool consists of demographic variables and attitude scale were administered to respondents and data was collected.

RESULTS

- The findings shows that Majority of the antenatal mothers 45 (90%) had moderately favourable level of attitude, 4(8%) had unfavourable level of attitude and 1(2%) had favourable level of attitude s and the mean and standard deviation of level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers is (36.92±6.074) respectively.
- Out of the 50 antenatal mothers who were interviewed, Majority of the antenatal mothers 38(76%) of study population were in the age group are 20-30 years. Most of the antenatal mothers were 3rd trimester in Gestational age 36 (72%). Majority of the antenatal mothers were followed by Hindu religion 42 (84%). Most of the antenatal mothers were completed Graduate in education 24 (48%). Majority of the antenatal mothers were Unemployed 35 (70%). Majority of the antenatal mothers were Married 47(94%). Majority of the antenatal mothers were comes under Joined family 27 (54%). Majority of the antenatal mothers were 1 children in Obstetrical score 27 (54%). Most of the antenatal mothers were Rural 29(58%). Most of the antenatal mothers Previous history of COVID 19 were Negative 49(98%). Most of the antenatal mothers were used PPE (mask, gloves, sanitizer) 46(92%). Most of the antenatal mothers were not having History of any co morbid disease 43(86%). Most of the antenatal mothers were having knowledge about COVID 19 40(80%) respectively.

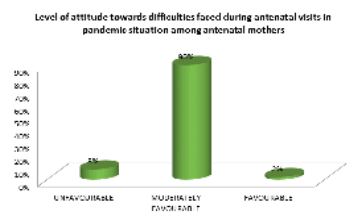
Table:-1 Frequency and percentage wise distribution of level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers. (N = 50)

LEVEL OF ATTITUDE	FREQUENCY (n)	PERCENTAGE (%)
UNFAVOURABLE	4	8
MODERATELY FAVOURABLE	45	90
FAVOURABLE	1	2
Total	50	100
Mean+Standard deviation	36.92+6.074	

Table-1 shows frequency and percentage wise distribution of level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers. Majority of the antenatal mothers 45 (90%) had moderately favourable level of attitude, 4(8%) had unfavourable level of attitude and 1(2%) had favourable level of

attitude s and the mean and standard deviation of level of attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers is (36.92±6.074) respectively.

FIGURE-1 SHOWS THAT THE LEVEL OF ATTITUDE TOWARDS DIFFICULTIES



CONCLUSION:

The descriptive Research Design was selected for this study to study to assess the attitude towards difficulties faced during antenatal visits in pandemic situation among antenatal mothers, at Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital, Puducherry.

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