



“A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE REGARDING E-WASTE MANAGEMENT AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS OF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE, GOVERNMENT POST GRADUATE COLLEGE, SANJAULI, SHIMLA (H.P.)”.

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ABSTRACT E-waste volumes are surging globally. According to the Global E-waste Statistics Partnership (GESp), they grew by 21% in the five years up to 2019, when 53.6 million metric tonnes of E-waste were generated. This growth is projected to continue as the use of computers, mobile phones and other electronics continues to expand, alongside their rapid obsolescence.¹ In India, the ministry said according to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the growth rate of this E-waste is even higher there is an increase of about 31%.² So as nursing students, we play a vital role in promoting human health and preventing them from dreadful diseases. We consider this as our responsibility to aware college students and enhance their knowledge regarding E-waste and its management, as they are the much wider users of E-gadgets, and they will also spread the awareness to the upcoming generation and their elder ones. **Objectives:** To assess the knowledge regarding E-waste management among college students, To assess the attitude regarding E-waste management among college students, To find out the co-relation between knowledge and attitude regarding E-waste management among college students, To find out the association of knowledge score regarding E-waste management among college students with socio-demographic variables and To find out the association of attitude regarding E-waste management among college students with socio-demographic variables. **Methodology:** A quantitative research approach with descriptive research design was adopted for the present study. The study was conducted among college students of Centre of Excellence, Government Postgraduate College, Sanjauli, Shimla (H.P.)". The sample size 100 college students were selected by using convenient sampling technique and data was collected by using self administered questionnaire and three-point Likert scale. **Result:** The result reveals that more than half of the college students had average knowledge (57.0%) followed by good knowledge (43.0%) and no one (0.0%) had poor knowledge regarding E- waste management whereas majority of the college students had a positive attitude (67.0%), (33.0%) had neutral attitude and no one (0.0%) had negative attitude towards E-waste management.

KEYWORDS : Assess, Knowledge, Attitude, E-Waste Management, College and Students

INTRODUCTION

Electronic waste or E-waste describes discarded electrical or electronic devices. Used electronics which are destined for refurbishment, reuse, resale, salvage recycling through material recovery, or disposal are also considered E-waste. Informal processing of E-waste in developing countries can lead to adverse human health effects and environmental pollution. E-waste or electronic waste is created when an electronic product is discarded after the end of its useful life. The rapid expansion of technology and the consumption driven society results in the creation of a very large amount of E-waste.³

NEED

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), health risks may result from direct contact with toxic materials that leach from E-waste.

These include minerals such as lead, cadmium, chromium, brominated flame retardants, or polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Danger can come from inhalation of toxic fumes, as well as from the accumulation of chemicals in soil, water, and food. This puts not just people in danger but land and sea animals as well. In developing countries, the risks are exceptionally high because some developed countries send their E-waste into the developing countries. Studies have shown this global E-waste has detrimental effects on the people that work with the E-waste but also the people that live around it.⁴

As the most of the research studies suggested that there is a lack of knowledge and awareness regarding E-waste and its management among people in societies. We consider this as our responsibility to aware college students and enhance their knowledge regarding E-waste and its management, as they are the much wider users of E-

gadgets.

4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electronic_waste (Accessed: March 21, 2023).
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METHODOLOGY

The present study includes quantitative research approach and research design was descriptive research design. The study was conducted at Centre of Excellence, Government Post Graduate College, Sanjauli, Shimla. A total sample of 100 college students were selected by using convenient sampling technique. The tools used for data collection were sociodemographic variables, self-structured questionnaire and three-point Likert scale.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table No. 1 Result Of Knowledge Score Regarding E-waste Management. N=100

LEVEL OF SCORES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
GOOD. (21-30)	43	43.0%
AVERAGE. (11-20)	57	57.0%
POOR. (0-10)	0	0.0%
Minimum=0		Maximum = 30

Table no. 1 reveals that more than half of the college students were having average knowledge (57.0%) about E-waste management, less than half of the college student were having good knowledge (43.0%) and no one (0.0%) were having poor knowledge.

Table No.2: Result Of Attitude Score Regarding E-waste Management. N=100

LEVEL OF SCORES	FERQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
POSITIVE ATTITUDE (56-75)	67	67.0%
NEUTRAL ATTITUDE(36-55)	33	33.0%
NEGATIVE ATTITUDE (15-35)	0	0.0%
Minimum=15		Maximum=75

Table no.2 reveals that majority of the college students were having positive attitude (67.0%) regarding E-waste management, minority of the college students were having neutral attitude (33.0%) and no one (0.0%) had negative attitude.

Table No.3 Depicts Correlation Between Knowledge And Attitude.

Karl Pearson's Correlation						
Correlation	Mean	SD	Correlation	Table value	P value	Result
Knowledge	19.75	2.739	0.714	0.197	<0.001	Signi- ficant
Attitude	56.29	4.234				

Table No. 3 reveals the significant positive correlation (0.714) between the knowledge and attitude regarding E-waste management.

Recommendation For The Future Studies

Based on study findings of the present study recommendations offered for the future study are :

- A similar study can be replicated on a large scale to generalize the findings.
- A Quasi experimental study can be undertaken in order to give structured teaching programmes.
- The comparative study may be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of various teaching strategies like self-instructional module, informational booklet, and educational pamphlets on same topic.
- A similar study can be conducted on the IT students.
- A similar study can be conducted to assess the practices of field workers working in the IT companies.

CONCLUSION

The present study concluded that as E-waste can be a threaten to human life and leading cause of specific cancers due to excessive exposure to radiation to the people working in IT fields and lack of knowledge related to its management so it is every important for every individual to become aware about its proper disposal and management as most of them are still unaware of the adverse effects of E-waste on health and the environment. So education regarding ill effects of E-waste is essential for people and awareness on proper disposal of E-waste is the need of the hour.

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