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EFFECTIVENESS OF A STRUCTURED TEACHING PROGRAMME ON THE PREVENTION OF DENGUE FEVER AMONG PATIENTS ADMITTED IN A SELECTED HOSPITAL AT COIMBATORE.

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ABSTRACT ***Background:*** This study examined the effectiveness of a structured teaching programme (STP) on the prevention of dengue fever among patients admitted to a medical ward in Coimbatore. ***Material And Methods:*** Convenience sampling was adopted and A quasi-experimental one-group pre-test and post-test design was used, involving patients aged 20–50 years. Data were collected using a structured knowledge questionnaire. ***Conclusion:*** Results revealed a significant improvement in post-test knowledge scores compared to pre-test scores ($t = 45.1$, $p < 0.001$), indicating that the STP was effective in enhancing awareness and preventive knowledge regarding dengue fever. Implementing such educational interventions within healthcare institutions can contribute to controlling the spread of dengue and other vector-borne diseases.

KEYWORDS : Dengue fever, prevention of dengue , STP on the prevention of DF ,Grena.J

INTRODUCTION:

Dengue fever remains one of the most common vector-borne viral infections affecting tropical and subtropical regions. The disease, transmitted by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, continues to challenge public health authorities due to poor community awareness and preventive practices[1]. health education is an essential component in controlling vector-borne diseases like dengue. Hence, providing structured teaching programmes to hospitalized patients can play a pivotal role in improving disease awareness and prevention [2].

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Effectiveness of a Structured Teaching Programme on the Prevention of Dengue Fever among Patients Admitted in a Selected Hospital at Coimbatore.

OBJECTIVES

- To assess the baseline knowledge level of patients regarding dengue fever prevention.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of a structured teaching programme on dengue prevention.
- To determine the association between pre- and post-test knowledge scores and selected demographic variables.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

Assess: Statistical measurement of patient knowledge using a structured questionnaire.

Knowledge: Correct responses to dengue prevention questions following the educational intervention.

Effectiveness: The extent of improvement in knowledge following the structured teaching programme.

Structured Teaching Programme (STP): A planned, systematic educational approach designed to enhance understanding of dengue prevention [5]

Prevention: Includes primary, secondary, and tertiary measures against dengue infection.

Patients: Individuals admitted to the medical ward seeking medical treatment.

ASSUMPTIONS

- Patients would actively participate in the educational programme.
- Participants might have limited initial knowledge regarding dengue prevention.
- The STP would significantly increase knowledge about dengue prevention strategies.

DELIMITATIONS

The study was restricted to:

- Patients aged 20–50 years admitted to the medical ward of K.G. Hospital, Coimbatore.
- Those available and willing to participate during data collection.
- Individuals who could read and communicate in Tamil or English.
- Participants in the pilot study were excluded from the main study.

HYPOTHESES

- **H_1:** There will be a significant difference between pre-test and post-test knowledge scores on dengue prevention.
- **H_2:** There will be a significant association between knowledge levels and selected demographic variables.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

A quasi-experimental one-group pre-test and post-test design was employed to evaluate the effectiveness of the STP.

Setting And Population

The study was conducted among patients admitted to the medical ward of K.G. Hospital, Coimbatore, covering both male and female patients aged 20–50 years.

Sampling Technique

Convenience sampling was adopted, as it was suitable for selecting readily available participants.

Variables

Independent Variable: Structured teaching programme on dengue prevention.

Dependent Variable: Knowledge score on dengue prevention.

Attributed Variables: Age, gender, education, occupation, marital status, income, residence, diet, and source of information.

Data Collection Tool

A structured questionnaire covering meaning, causes, vector transmission, symptoms, and preventive measures of dengue was used.

Data Analysis

Data were analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The paired *t*-test compared pre-test and post-test knowledge scores, and the chi-square test assessed associations with demographic variables.

RESULTS:

Pre- and Post-Test Knowledge Comparison:

The mean percentage of post-test knowledge scores (78.75%) was considerably higher than pre-test scores (28.55%), confirming the STP's effectiveness.

Parameter	Mean	S.D	Mean %	t-value	Significance
Pre-test	11.42	14.28	28.55%	—	—
Post-test	31.50	39.38	78.75%	45.1	p < 0.001 (S)

Association With Demographic Variables:

No significant association was observed between post-test knowledge levels and demographic variables such as age, sex, education, occupation, or income ($p > 0.05$).

DISCUSSION

The findings demonstrate that the structured teaching programme significantly improved patient knowledge regarding dengue prevention.. The results reinforce that structured, well-designed health education initiatives can play a crucial role in disease prevention, especially in hospital-based settings. The study concluded that a structured teaching programme is a highly effective tool for enhancing patients' knowledge about dengue prevention.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conduct similar studies in community and rural settings to improve public health awareness.
2. Integrate dengue prevention education into routine patient care in hospitals.
3. Develop region-specific educational materials based on literacy and cultural background.
4. Replicate the study on a larger scale for stronger generalization.

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