

Opinion on Use of Self Instructional Module on Autism Among Pre School Teachers



Nursing

KEYWORDS : Opinion, Self Instructional Module, Autism, Pre-school Teachers

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ABSTRACT

In Autism there is communication deficits, a general lack in social interaction, self stimulatory or repetitive behaviors, resistance to change in environment, strong preference for sameness, and unusual sensory experiences. The study focused on to obtain opinion of Pre school teachers on use of self instructional module on Autism. Quantitative non-experimental research approach adopted for the study.Descriptive research design was used. Setting for the study was pre schools of Pune city from Permanent Unaided School, MNC, Unaided school and Private aided school.Multi stage cluster sampling technique used. Tool was developed in two Sections: Section I: Demographic Proforma of the sample .Section II: Opinionnaire was used to get the opinion on use of self-Instructional module based on five point scale containing nine statements. Self-InstructionalModule,was developed under following domain: Meaning, diagnosis, causes, sign and symptoms and management of Autism. Provided the Self Instructional module to each samples and after 15 days obtained the views on Self Instructional module on Autism. It is fund that 26.6% of the Preschool teachers had good opinions regarding the use of Self-Instructional Module and 70% of them had excellent opinion regarding the use of Self-Instructional Module

Introduction:

Dr. Leo Kanner- suggested "Autism" from the Greek (autos) meaning "self" to describe the fact that the children seemed to lack interest in other people.^[1] children with autism make and receive fewer social initiations, respond to fewer initiations, and engage in shorter interactions than their typically developing age mates.^[2]In Autism there is communication deficits, a general lack in social interaction, self stimulatory or repetitive behaviours, resistance to change in environment, strong preference for sameness, and unusual sensory experiences^[3]

The cause of autism is not known .^[4] Studies suggest that there is a strong genetic basis, but it cannot be traced to a single-gene mutation or to a single chromosome abnormality^[5].The alarming proportion by which it is rising can India the most populous country in the world having such neurological disorder.^[6]

Little attention in assessing teacher knowledge of the characteristics of the disorder has been noted^[7] The educational scenario vis-à-vis autism in India is worrying and in need of urgent remedial measures.^[8]

Teachers can have an immense impact on young people's health. Every day at least 5-6 hour it is the school teachers who come in contact with school children. If teachers are educated especially about autism, with the help of a learning module, it will help the teachers to identify signs and symptoms of autism as early as possible and take remedial measures promptly. Currently the need of autistic children in India are not being met in either the regular or special education systems with an understanding teacher or possibly an aide, a more able autistic child could function very well in a regular school and learn valuable social skills from his peers. Also the rigidity and pressure of schools in India can make it difficult for an autistic child to cope without special allowances. Some middle and lower functioning children, who form the majority of autistic children, may attend special schools, but these schools almost always lack an understanding of effective methods of handling the challenging behaviors of autistic children^[9].Investigator realized the importance to know the views of Preschool teachers on Self Instructional module on Autism

Objectives:

- To Describe the demographic characteristics of Pre schools teachers
- To obtain opinion of Pre school teachers on use of self instructional module on Autism.

Statement of the problem: "Opinion on use of Self Instructional module on Autism among Pre school teachers"

Material and Method:Quantitative non-experimental research approach adopted for the study.Descriptive research design was used. Setting for the study was Pre schools of Pune city from Permanent Unaided school, MNC, Unaided school and Private aided school. Sample size was comprised of 30 Preschool Teachers from these schools. Multi stage cluster sampling technique used. Tool was developed in two Sections: Section I: Demographic Proforma of the sample included age, gender, education, educational experiences, Autism training and Exposure to Autistic children .Section II: Opinion Scale : Opinionnaire was used to get the opinion on use of self-Instructional module based on five point scale containing nine statements. Self-Instructional Module:This module was developed in English, Hindi and Marathi language. The language in module used was simple to understand. SIM was developed under following domain: Meaning, diagnosis, causes, sign and symptoms and management of Autism. After obtaining the permission from the concerned authority and informed consent from the samples, the investigator had administered the tool. Provided the Self Instructional module to each samples and after 15 days obtained the views on Self Instructional module on Autism.

Result:

Section I : Description of demographic Variables of Pre-schools teachers

- 30% of the teachers were from age group 21-25 years, 56.7% of them were from 26-30 years and 13.3% of were from age of 31-35 years.
- Most of the respondents were Post graduate 50% of the total participants, Degree respondents were 33.33% and Diploma respondents were few i.e 16.67%.
- All respondents were female(100%) , No male respondents
- Majority of the respondents 53.3% have more than five years of teaching experience. 46.6 % havingless than 5 yearsof teaching experience.
- It is revealed that no respondents 100% had undergone training related to the Autism
- Majority of respondents 83.3% did not expose to Autistic child any time and Only16.67% of respondents had exposure to autistic child.

Section II: Opinion on use of Self-instructional module on Autism among Pre-School Teachers

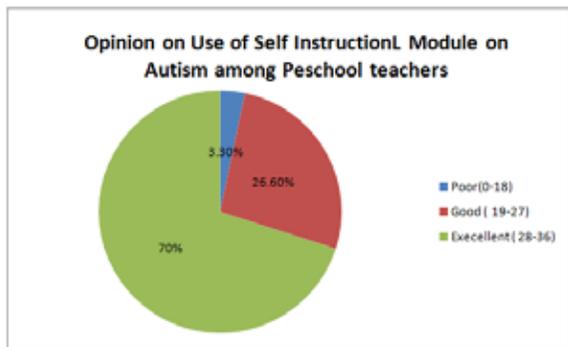


Fig 1: Pie diagram showing Opinion of Preschool teachers on use of Self-Instructional Module on Autism

Fig1 shows that 26.6% of the Preschool teachers had good opinions regarding the use of Self-Instructional Module and 70% of them had excellent opinion regarding the use of Self-Instructional Module.

Section III

Area wise Pre School teachers' opinions regarding the use of self-instructional module in terms of frequency and percentages:

Usefulness

Sr. No	Item	Freq	%
1	Information provided by the self-Instructional module was		
	Extremely useless	0	0.0%
	Useless	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither useless nor useful)	02	15.7%
	Useful	18	76.0%
	Extremely useful	10	8.3%
2	I feel that Self Instructional Module can be used to help in identifying Childs problem		
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	3.0%
	Neutral (Neither Disagree nor agree)	1	6.3%
	Agree	16	72.0%
	Strongly Agree	13	18.7%

Information quality

3	Information I got from self-Instructional module was clear		
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither Disagree nor agree)	1	3.3%
	Agree	17	56.6%
	Strongly Agree	12	40.0%
4	self-Instructional module provided sufficient and accurate information		
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither Disagree nor agree)	1	3.3%
	Agree	14	46.6%
	Strongly Agree	15	50.0%

5	Contents in the module were adequate.		
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither Disagree nor agree)	1	3.3%
	Agree	16	53.3%
	Strongly Agree	13	43.3%

Usage characteristic

6	The Self Instructional Module is easy to use		
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither Disagree nor agree)	1	3.3%
	Agree	20	66.6%
	Strongly Agree	9	30.0%
7	The Self Instructional Module is easy to understand.		
	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
	Disagree	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither Disagree nor agree)	1	3.3%
	Agree	16	53.3%
	Strongly Agree	13	43.3%
8	Recommend		
	Would you recommend the use of self-Instructional Module to a friend or relative		
	Strongly not recommend	0	0.0%
	Not recommend	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither not recommend nor recommend)	1	3.3%
	Recommend	17	56.6%
9	Overall Satisfaction		
	How satisfied are you with self-Instructional Module		
	Highly dissatisfied	0	0.0%
	Dissatisfied	0	0.0%
	Neutral (Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied)	1	3.3%
	Satisfied	19	63.3%
	Highly Satisfied	10	33.3%

DISCUSSION: In present study it is revealed that no respondents 100% had undergone training related to the Autism, a study conducted by 8% of teachers in the private sector and 9% of the teachers in the non-private sector had attended formal training on autism.^[10] This clearly displays the lack of training opportunities regarding autism for teachers.

In present study it is concluded from the views of preschool teachers that 72% felt that Self Instructional Module can be used to help in identifying Childs problem in similar study it is found that, 57% of the teachers realized the importance of getting prior training when dealing with children with autism.^[10]

Conclusion: The present study conclude that the 26.6% of the Preschool teachers had good opinion regarding the use of Self-Instructional Module and 70% of them had excellent opinion regarding the use of Self-Instructional Module on Autism.

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