



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF TEENAGERS REGARDING PREVENTION OF ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT AT SELECTED SCHOOL AT SELECTED SETTING

Nursing

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ABSTRACT

In developing countries, exposure to potential road traffic injury has increased largely. The present study was undertaken to assess knowledge of teenagers regarding prevention of road traffic accident at RAHS School. In order to achieve the objectives of the study a descriptive research design was used. Fifty students who were studying in class 11th and 12th were selected by simple random sampling technique. Their knowledge regarding road traffic accident was assessed by self structured knowledge questionnaire which comprised of two parts. Part I-socio demographic profile of students and Part -II structured knowledge questionnaire on road traffic accident. Findings revealed that (72%) students had below average knowledge followed by 20% had average knowledge and only 8% had good knowledge regarding road traffic accident. Chi square test showed that there was no significant association between level of knowledge with socio demographic variables. The findings revealed that majority of students had below average knowledge, hence it is recommended that education should be given on preventive measures of road traffic accidents by teachers and health professionals.

KEYWORDS

Road Traffic Accident, Teenagers, Knowledge, Structured Questionnaire.

INTRODUCTION:

Road traffic crashes is predicted to be the seventh leading cause of death by 2030 and most affected countries are low and middle income countries with 90% of the world's fatalities on the road. Most leading cause of death among people age between 15 and 29 years are due to road traffic injuries. Road traffic injuries occur due to speedy driving under the influence of alcohol, not using safety measures, distracted driving, unsafe road infrastructure, unsafe vehicles.

RTA ranks as the 11th leading cause of death and accounts for 2.1% of all deaths globally. Children were most precious possession of mankind. The school children were full of vigor, impatient, carelessness, rush and expose themselves to environmental hazards.

Creating awareness among all sections of society regarding traffic measures, so that the morbidity and mortality can be reduced. Road deaths and injuries are preventable. A wide range of effective road safety interventive measures are essential to handle the problem. This approach should address the traffic system as a whole and look into interactions for solution

There is clearly a need for road safety education and it should be directed towards public. Everybody should be concerned and should work toward achieving a safe road travel. Health sector is an important partner in the process of prevention and control of RTA.

MATERIALS AND METHOD:

A descriptive study was conducted to assess knowledge of teenagers regarding prevention of road traffic accident. Out of 100 students 50 students who were studying in 11th and 12th class at RAHS School were selected by simple random sampling technique. Self structured knowledge questionnaire on prevention of road traffic accident with 30 items was prepared for data collection, validated by subject experts. Reliability of tool was 0.82, calculated by split half method and Karl Pearson coefficient formula.

Before collection of data written permission was obtained from School Principal. Written consent was obtained from each student after giving assurance of confidentiality. Tool was administered to subjects and 30-45 min were given to complete it. The data obtained was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

RESULT & DISCUSSION:

Regarding age, 50% subjects were in the age groups of 16-17 years and 50% to 18-19 years respectively, more than half (62%) subjects were male, 62% students belonged to urban area. 64% belonged to nuclear families. 62% were hindus.

Frequency and Percentage distribution of teenagers according to level of knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accident N=50

Level of knowledge	Score	f	%
Good	>21	4	8
Average	11-20	10	20
Below average	0-10	36	72

Reveals that majority of subjects (72%) had below average knowledge followed by 20% had average and only 8% had good knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accident. There was no significant association between level of knowledge and socio demographic variables.

CONCLUSION:

The present study concludes that prevention of road traffic accident among teenagers is a major public health problem. There is need to initiate prevention of road traffic accident programmes. Health education is an important strategy for those groups to prevent road traffic accidents. Parents, teachers, and peer group have an important role to counsel and educate the adolescents regarding prevention of road traffic accident.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Nil

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Self

ETHICAL CLEARANCE:

Written permission was obtained from School Principal RAHS School. Written consent was obtained from each student after giving assurance of confidentiality.

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