



A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND UTILIZATION OF ANTENATAL SERVICES AMONG PRIMIGRAVIDA WOMEN IN SELECTED HOSPITALS OF KAMRUP DISTRICT, ASSAM

Nursing

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ABSTRACT

Antenatal Care includes care before birth and encompasses education, counseling, screening and treatment to monitor and to encourage the well-being of both the mother and fetus. Utilization of Antenatal Care services and maternal and child health programmes were critically important in a country like India which is experiencing high infant and child mortality rate and maternal mortality rate. The objective of the study was to describe the knowledge of antenatal women on antenatal services and utilization of available health services in community. Data was collected from 160 samples by using consecutive sampling technique. Socio-demographic proforma, self-administered structured questionnaire on knowledge regarding antenatal services and using checklist utilization of antenatal services was used to collect data. Results showed that majority 101(63.1%) had moderate knowledge, 48(30%) had inadequate knowledge and 11(6.9%) had adequate knowledge regarding antenatal services. All the participants i.e. 160(100%) had adequate utilization of antenatal services with mean score was 8.27 and SD=1.277. Majority 160(100%) had received immunization, had received Iron and folic acid tablets, had attended screening sessions for abdomen and breast examination, had attended screening sessions of blood pressure measurement, height and weight recording, had attended screening sessions of blood and urine examination, 158(98.7%) had registered pregnancy within 1-3 months, 117(73.1%) had received vitamin supplements, 106(66.2%) had received health talk on nutrition and exclusive breast feeding, 76(47.5%) had received counselling on family planning, and 66(41.2%) had received health talk on personal and environmental hygiene. The findings of the study show that there is significant co-relation between knowledge and utilization of the antenatal services among primigravida women. The mean knowledge score was 9.42 ± 2.064 and mean utilization score was 8.27 ± 1.277 . Study result shows that there is significant association between knowledge on antenatal services with selected demographic variables with respect to educational status ($p = 0.021$), occupation ($p = 0.014$) and average family income per month ($p = 0.049$). The study findings also shows that there is significant association between utilization of antenatal services with selected demographic variables with respect to age ($p = 0.036$), educational status ($p = 0.001$), and occupation of primigravida women ($p = 0.002$). In this study it concludes that more awareness and education should be given by the health workers to the antenatal mothers to receive the full antenatal services.

KEYWORDS

Knowledge, Utilization, Antenatal services

INTRODUCTION

Antenatal Care includes care before birth and encompasses education, counseling, screening and treatment to monitor and to encourage the well-being of both the mother and fetus.¹

Antenatal care is the care of woman during the pregnancy in order to ensure that both the mother and child remain healthy. Encouragement of maternal health and child health is one of the most important constituent of World Health Organization under family welfare programme in India. It is useful to reduce child and maternal mortality and morbidity and to encourage, prevent and protect maternal and perinatal health for sustainable improvement in growth and development of nation. Woefully, many women in advance nation do not receive such care. Appropriate antenatal care is one of the pillars of maternal and perinatal health. Antenatal care is regarded as a firmness of obstetrical services and health of pregnant women.²

According to the Sample Registration System Bulletin-2016-2018, The Maternal Mortality Rate is 113 in (2016-2018) per 100000 live births in India. Assam has the high incidence of maternal mortality in India. According to the Sample Registration System Bulletin-2016, the Maternal Mortality Rate is 215 in (2016-2018) per 100000 live births in Assam.³ According to 2015-2016, National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4), only 21 % of mothers had full antenatal care in India.⁴ According to 2015-2016, National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4), only 47 % of mothers in Assam received at least four antenatal care visits.⁵

According to 2015-2016, National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4), Infant mortality rate was 41 per 1000 live births and Child Mortality Rate was 50 per 1,000 live births in India.⁴ According to 2015-2016, National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4), infant mortality rate was 48 per 1,000 live births in Assam.⁵ Hence the investigator decided to conduct a study to assess the knowledge and utilization of Antenatal services among Primigravida women.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

A descriptive study to assess the Knowledge and Utilization of

Antenatal services among Primigravida women in selected hospitals of Kamrup District, Assam.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge of primigravida women regarding antenatal services.
2. To assess the utilization of the antenatal services among primigravida women.
3. To determine the co-relation between knowledge and utilization of the antenatal services among primigravida women.
4. To determine the association between knowledge on antenatal services with selected demographic variables among primigravida women.
5. To determine the association between utilization of the antenatal services with selected demographic variables among primigravida women.

METHODOLOGY

The research approach was Quantitative research approach and cross-sectional descriptive research design was adopted. The setting for the study was conducted in Guwahati Medical College and Hospital in Antenatal OPD. The sample for the study consists of the primigravida women of third trimester attending antenatal OPD. The sample size was 160 which were calculated by standard statistical formula. Non-probability consecutive sampling technique was adopted for the study. Tool consist of 3 parts, Tool I contained 6 questionnaire on socio-demographic variables, Tool II contained 16 questionnaires on knowledge regarding antenatal services and Tool III contained 10 questionnaires on utilization regarding antenatal services. Ethical consideration obtained on 10th November 2020 from the institutional ethical committee, Army Institute of Nursing, C/O 151 Base Hospital Guwahati, Assam to conduct the study. Ethical clearance obtained on 23rd June, 2021 from the institutional ethical committee, GMCH to conduct the study. Formal written permission was obtained from Head of Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Guwahati Medical College and Hospital, Guwahati. Written informed consent was taken from the participant prior to data collection. Privacy was maintained during and after the data collection. Confidentiality and anonymity of

participants were preserved throughout the study. The period of data collection was from 24/06/2021 to 23/07/2021.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The result showed that 64(40%) were in age group of 26-29 years, 52(32.5%) were in age group of 22-25 years, 35(21.9%) were in age group of 18-21 years and 9(5.6%) were in age group of 30-32 years. 125(78.1%) belongs to Hindu and 35(21.9%) belongs to Muslim. 52(32.5%) had education up to graduation and above, 40(25%) had up to secondary level, 40(25%) had up to higher secondary, 15(9.4%) had up to primary level and 13(8.1%) were illiterate. 105(65.6%) were living in joint family and 55(34.4%) were living in nuclear family. 154(96.2%) were housewife and 6(3.8%) were in service. 77(48.1%) had average family income of less than Rs.10,000 per month, 48(30%) had average family income of Rs.10,001-20,000 per month, 24(15%) had average family income of Rs.20,001-30,000 per month and 11(6.9%) had average family income of more than Rs.30,001 per month.

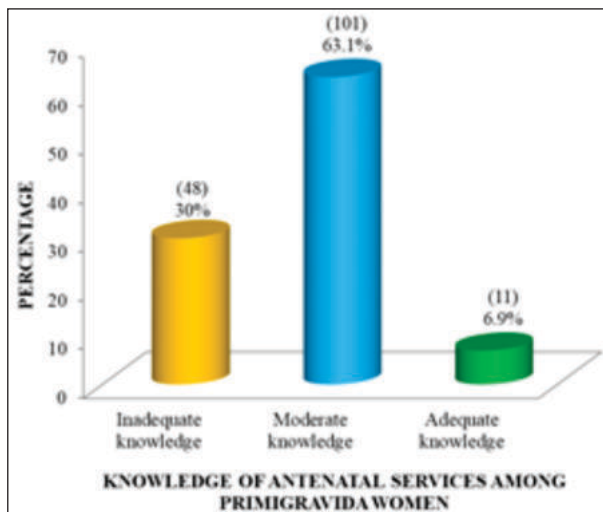


Figure 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge of antenatal services among primigravida women.

The result of the present study reveals that majority 101(63.1%) had moderate knowledge, 48(30%) had inadequate knowledge and 11(6.9%) had adequate knowledge regarding antenatal services with an average mean score was 9.42 and SD=2.064.

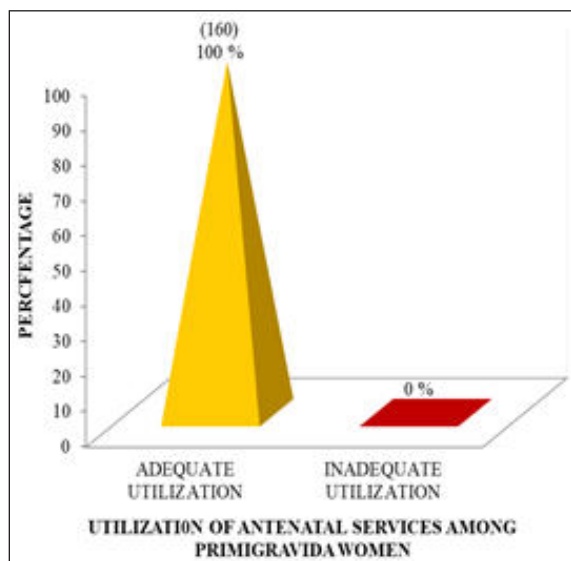


Figure 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of level of utilization of antenatal services among primigravida women.

The present study reveals that all the participants i.e. 160(100%) had adequate utilization of antenatal services with mean score was 8.27 and SD=1.277.

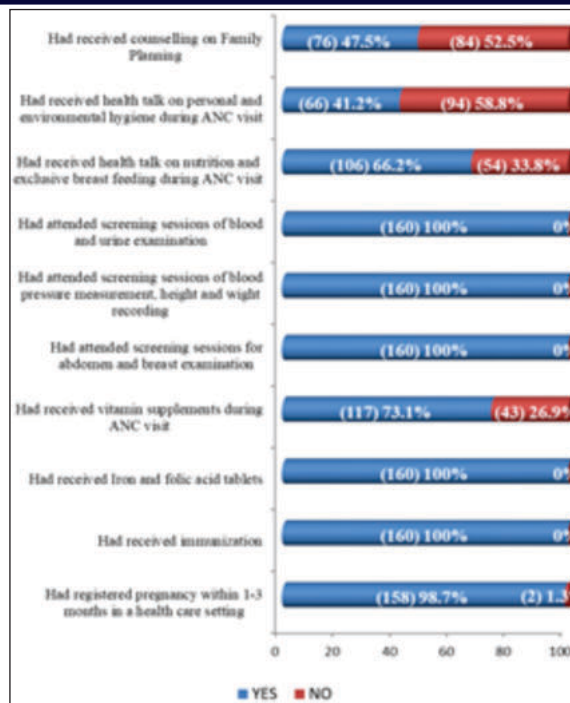


Figure 3: Frequency and percentage distribution of utilization of antenatal services among primigravida women.

The present study shows that majority 160(100%) had received immunization, had received iron and folic acid tablets, had attended screening sessions for abdomen and breast examination, had attended screening sessions of blood pressure measurement, height and weight recording, had attended screening sessions of blood and urine examination, 158(98.7%) had registered pregnancy within 1-3 months, 117(73.1%) had received vitamin supplements, 106(66.2%) had received health talk on nutrition and exclusive breast feeding, 76(47.5%) had received counselling on family planning, and 66(41.2%) had received health talk on personal and environmental hygiene.

The present study result shows that there is significant co-relation between knowledge and utilization of the antenatal services among primigravida women. The mean knowledge score was 9.42±2.064 and mean utilization score was 8.27±1.277 at 0.05 level of significance.

The present study result shows that there is significant association between knowledge on antenatal services with respect to educational status ($p = 0.021$), occupation ($p = 0.014$) and average family income per month ($p = 0.049$) at 0.05 level of significance.

The present study reveals that there is significant association between utilization of antenatal services with respect to age ($p = 0.036$), educational status ($p = 0.001$), and occupation of primigravida women ($p = 0.002$) at 0.05 level of significance.

DISCUSSION

The result indicates that majority of the participants i.e. 63.1% had moderate knowledge, 30% had inadequate knowledge and 6.9% had adequate knowledge regarding antenatal services which was supported by study conducted by Negi M, Anjali KM, Pokhriyal A, Nautiyal KN, Pant M, Rana S (2021) a descriptive study to assess knowledge regarding antenatal care among pregnant women at district hospital Gopeshwar, Chamoli among 100 women. Study was found that 53% had average knowledge, 26% had poor knowledge and 21% had good knowledge.⁶

The result of the study indicates that all the participants i.e. 100% had adequate utilization of antenatal services. 100% had received immunization, had received iron and folic acid tablets, had attended screening sessions for abdomen and breast examination, had attended screening sessions of blood pressure measurement, height and weight recording, had attended screening sessions of blood and urine examination, 98.7% had registered pregnancy within 1-3 months,

73.1% had received vitamin supplements, 66.2% had received health talk on nutrition and exclusive breast feeding, 47.5% had received counselling on family planning, and 41.2% had received health talk on personal and environmental hygiene which was supported by a study conducted by Borah H, Bora PJ (2016) a community based cross sectional study on Utilization of Antenatal Care Services in Rural Areas of Jorhat among 290 women. Study was found that 100% of the study subjects registered during antenatal period, 93.1% women received 2 doses of tetanus toxoid, 82.8% women consumed more than 100 iron folic acid tablets, 74.1% subjects had 4 or more antenatal visits but only 28.6% study subjects had early registration.⁷

The present study reveals that there is significant co-relation between knowledge and utilization of the antenatal services among primigravida women which was supported by study conducted by Chandrakar K (2020) a descriptive study to assess the knowledge & utilization of community health care services related to Maternal & Child Health by Mothers. Study was found that there was a moderate positive co-relation between knowledge & utilization of Maternal & Child Health services. The correlation value was ($r=0.422$) at 0.05 level of significance.⁸

The present study result shows that there is significant association between knowledge on antenatal services with selected demographic variables with respect to educational status ($p=0.021$), occupation ($p=0.014$) and average family income per month ($p=0.049$) which was supported by study conducted by Negi M, Anjali KM, Pokhriyal A, Nautiyal KN, Pant M, Rana S (2021) a descriptive study to assess knowledge regarding antenatal care among pregnant women at district hospital Gopeshwar, Chamoli among 100 women. Study was found significant association of knowledge with selected demographic variables with respect to age, educational level, occupation of pregnant women, and monthly income at 0.05 level of significance.⁶

The present study shows that there is significant association between utilization of the antenatal services with selected demographic variables with respect to age ($p=0.036$), educational status ($p=0.001$), and occupation of primigravida women ($p=0.002$) which was supported by a cross-sectional study conducted by Gupta RK, Shora TN, Verma AK, Jan R (2013) on knowledge regarding antenatal care services, its utilization, and delivery practices in mothers (aged 15-49 years) in a rural area of North India among 211 mothers. Study was found significant association of utilization on antenatal services with selected demographic variables with respect to the age, literacy status, socioeconomic status (SES) and type of family at 0.05 level of significance.⁹

CONCLUSION

Antenatal care is the care provided to women during her period of pregnancy with the aim of establishing good health for both the mother and the unborn child. It is one of the most effective health interventions for preventing maternal morbidity and mortality. Study result found that majority of the participants 101 (63.1%) had moderate knowledge and 66.2% had received health talk on nutrition and exclusive breast feeding, 47.5% had received counselling on family planning, and 41.2% had received health talk on personal and environmental hygiene. So, we conclude the study that more awareness and education should be given by the health workers to the antenatal mothers to receive the full antenatal services.

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