



A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS OF MENTALLY ILL PATIENTS AMONG PATIENT'S RELATIVES OF SELECTED HOSPITALS OF THE CITY

Psychiatric Nursing

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ABSTRACT

Background: In a 1997 Indian Supreme Court decision, the National Human Rights Commission was given the mandate to monitor and supervise performance at the mental health institutions at Agra, Gwalior, and Ranchi "to ensure that they function in the manner as is expected for achieving the object for which they were set up." Since then, this mandate has extended to all similar institutions in India. **Objectives:** 1. to assess the knowledge regarding human rights of mentally ill patients among patient's relatives. 2. To find out the association between knowledge score with selected demographic variables. **Methods:** A Descriptive research design was used for the study. It was conducted among total of 90 patients relatives from selected hospitals using Non probability sampling technique. Data were collected using a structured knowledge questionnaire. **Result:** The findings of demographic variable reveals that, there was significant relationship found between knowledge on human rights of mentally ill patients among patient relatives with Income of family per month, Relation with patient. The finding of the study reveals that maximum number of samples (94.4%) have adequate knowledge, (5.6%) have inadequate knowledge on human rights of mentally ill patient among patient relatives. **Conclusion:** The findings of the study indicated that patient relatives have significant knowledge about human rights of mentally ill patient among patient relatives.

KEYWORDS

Human rights, mentally ill patients, relatives, Hospitals

1. INTRODUCTION:

Everyone has the basic Human Rights including those who are mentally ill. Mentally ill patients are one of the most vulnerable groups in society. It is the responsibility of the health care providers specially those working in psychiatric setup to protect their human rights. In order to do so the health personnel mainly the patient relative must be aware of human rights of mentally ill patients. Incidence of violation of rights of mentally ill patients can be avoided if the relative becomes aware of them.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS:

Research design and setting

The present study represents Descriptive research design. The setting of study is selected hospitals of city.

Participants

The target population comprised mentally ill patients. The accessible population included mentally ill patient's relatives who met the inclusion criteria and were available during the study period.

Inclusion criteria

- Willing to participate in the study.
- Available during the time of data collection.
- All patients relative in hospital.

Exclusion criteria

- The study is limited to 90 samples.
- Patient relative who are not willing to participate in this study.
- Those who are not willing to participate in study.

Samples size and sampling technique

A total of 90 patient's relatives from selected hospitals using Non probability sampling technique. A pilot study was conducted before the main study to assess the feasibility and reliability of the tool. Pilot study participants were excluded from the final sample.

Intervention Protocol

The participants were assessed using a structured questionnaire consisting of demographic variables, knowledge questionnaire on human rights of mentally ill patients among patient's relatives.

Outcome Measures

Section A: Demographic Variable

The demographic questionnaire consisted of the following variables: Age, Gender, Religion, Residence, Type of family, Income of the family per month, Educational status, Occupational status of patient relatives, Source of information on Human rights of mentally ill patient.

Section B: Human Rights of Mentally Ill Patients

Knowledge regarding human rights of mentally ill patients was assessed using a structured knowledge questionnaire consisting of 14

Yes/No type question. Each yes was awarded 1 mark and each no was awarded 0 mark, the total score ranged from 0–14.

Knowledge levels were categorized as:

- Inadequate 0-7
- Adequate 8-14

Validity and Reliability

Content validity was established by a Five-member expert panel (5 nursing faculty, Mental Health Nursing). Tools were translated into Marathi with linguistic validation. A pilot study (n=12) was done on 18 December 2025, confirmed feasibility; pilot participants excluded from the main study.

3. RESULT

SECTION A: Distribution of Respondents according to Demographic Variables

Table No - 1: Distribution of Respondents by Age, Gender, Religion, Residence, Type of family.

N=90

Demographic variable	frequency	percentage
Age in years		
19-28 yr.	15	16.7%
29-38 yr.	25	27.7%
39-48 yr.	30	33.3%
49 yr. and above	20	22.3%
Gender		
Male	53	58.8%
Female	37	41.2%
Religion		
Hindu	50	55.5%
Muslim	21	23.4%
Christian	07	7.8%
Other	12	13.3%
Residence		
Urban	54	60%
Rural	36	40%
Type of family		
Nuclear	43	47.7%
Joint	47	52.3%

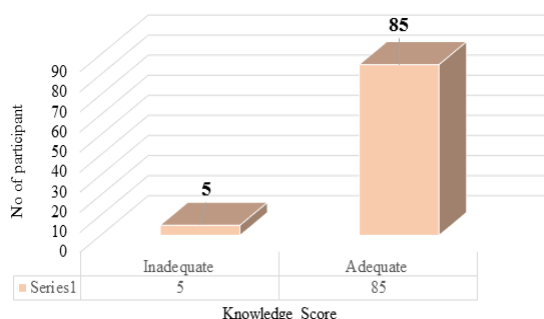
Table No - 2: Distribution of Respondents by Income of the family per month, Educational status of caregiver, Occupation, Source of information of human rights of mentally ill patient.

N=90

Demographic variable	frequency	percentage
Income of the family per month		
less than Rs 25000	10	11.1%

25001-45000	19	21.1%
45001-65000	25	27.8%
65001 and above	36	40%
Educational status		
Illiterate	12	13.4%
Primary education	14	15.5%
Secondary education	26	28.9%
Diploma	22	24.4%
Graduation & above	16	17.8%
Occupation		
Labour	05	5.6%
Agriculture	19	21.1%
Private employee	30	33.3%
Government employee	11	12.2%
Businessman	10	11.1%
Other	15	16.7%
Source of information of human rights of mentally ill patient		
Mass media	07	7.8%
Health professional	17	18.9%
Friends and relatives	20	22.2%
No information	40	44.4%
Others	06	6.7%

Section - B: Knowledge Score of Human Rights of Mentally Ill Patients



Distribution according to Knowledge score of Human rights of mentally ill patients

Section - C: Association Regarding Human Rights of Mentally Ill Patients Among Patient Relatives With Selected Demographic Variables.

Table no - 4: chi-square values show association between knowledge human rights of mentally ill patients among patient relatives with selected demographic variable of age, gender, religion, residence, type of family.

							N=90
Demographic variable	Sample	Inadequate	Adequate	DF	χ^2	P-Value	Result
Age in years							
19-28 yr.	15	01	14	03	3.407	0.333	N. S
29-38 yr.	25	01	24				
39-48 yr.	30	03	27				
49 yr. and Above	20	04	16				
Gender							
Male	53	04	49	01	0.974	0.3235	N. S
Female	37	01	36				
Religion							
Hindu	50	03	47	03	0.632	0.889	N. S
Muslim	21	01	20				
Christian	07	00	07				
Other	12	01	11				
Residence							
Urban	54	01	53	01	3.529	0.060	N. S
Rural	36	04	32				
Type of family							
Nuclear	43	02	41	01	0.128	0.720	N.S

Table no 4 shows that there is no significant association between the demographic variables with knowledge human rights of mentally ill patients among patient relatives with age, (3.407), Gender (0.974), Religion (0.632) Residence 3.59, and Type of family (0.128).

Table No - 5: chi-square values show association between knowledge human rights of mentally ill patients among patient relatives with selected demographic variable of income of family per month, educational status of caregiver, occupation, sources of information of human rights of mentally ill patients.

Human rights of Mentally in patients.								N=90
Demographic variable	Sample	Inadequate	Adequate	Df	χ^2	P Value	Result	
Income of family per month								
less than 25000	10	04	06	03	25.72	0.000	S	
25001-45000	19	00	19					
45001-65000	25	00	25					
65001 and above	36	01	35					
Educational status of caregiver								
Illiterate	12	02	10	04	4.477	0.345	N. S	
Primary education	14	01	13					
Secondary education	26	00	26					
Diploma	22	01	21					
Graduation & above	16	01	15					
Occupation								
Labour	05	00	05	5	3.159	0.675	N. S	
Agriculture	19	01	18					
Private employee	30	01	29					
Government employee	11	01	10					
Businessman	10	00	10					
Others	15	02	13					
Sources of information of human rights of mentally ill patient								
Mass media	07	00	07	04	1.068	0.899	N.S	
Health professional	17	01	16					
Friends and relatives	20	01	19					
No information	40	03	37					
Others	06	00	06					

Table no 5 shows that significant association was found between the demographic variables Income of family per month (25.72) on knowledge human rights of mentally ill patients among patient relatives. Were as there is No Significant association found between Educational status of caregiver (4.477), and occupation (3.159), sources of information of human rights of mentally ill patient (1.068).

CONCLUSION:

The maximum number of samples (94.4%) have adequate knowledge on human rights of mentally ill patient among patient relatives, (5.6%) have inadequate knowledge on human rights of mentally ill patient among patient relatives. The findings of the study indicated that patient relatives have significant knowledge about human rights of mentally ill patient among patient relatives.

Declaration:

Funding	This research not received external funding
Conflict of interest	The authors declare no conflicts of interest
Ethical Approval	Approved by the IEC and BORS
Informed Consent	Written informed consent was obtained from the participants.
Data Availability	Data are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

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