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A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Practice Regarding Prevention of Home Accidents among Mothers of under Five Children at Milaganoor

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Abstract

Children are the potential sources of nation. They are the citizen of tomorrow and hence the child health care are rightly called custodian's tomorrow.

The aim of the study was to determine the knowledge and the practice of mothers regarding prevention of home accidents and to improve the knowledge and practice through information booklet.

The review of literature enabled the investigation to develop the conceptual frame work, methodology for the study and plan for analysis of data in an effective and efficient way. The conceptual frame work adopted for this study was based on health belief model, which focuses on providing knowledge and thread about the consequences of home accidents among mothers of under five children.

The research approach adopted for this study was descriptive approach and the design used in this study was a descriptive design. The tools used for this study was semi structured knowledge questionnaire and observation checklist and sample was interviewed by using semi structured knowledge questionnaire. Milaganoor was selected for this study. Convenient sampling method was used for sample selection. A sample size was 60 mothers of under five children were taken for the study according to the inclusion criteria.

Among the mothers of under five children 17 (28.3%) had adequate knowledge, 19 (31.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 24 (40%) had inadequate knowledge.

Among the mothers 17 (28.3%) had good practice, 14 (23.3%) had average practice and 29 (48.4%) had poor practice.

The computed R-value is +0.2428. The positive correlation was found between knowledge and practice. Mothers who had adequate knowledge they followed good practices. Overall, when the knowledge is adequate, the practice is also good.

There is a significant association exist between the knowledge and the educational status of the mother and type of housing. There is significant association exist between the practice and the educational status of the mother, family income and type of housing.

Keywords: Conceptual frame work • Correlation • Custodian's tomorrow • Information booklet

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Introduction

The late prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru, once said children are the wealth of tomorrow. Healthy Children are the greatest resource and a nation's pride. Investment in children's development is an investment in the future of the nation.

According to the world health report given by the department of injuries and violence prevention (2000), among the leading cause of death in both genders in the 0 yr to 4 yrs age group, falls ranks in the 12th position. The same WHO (2000) report further indicates that in the 0 yr to 4 yrs age group the leading cause of burden of disease, south east Asia region. India, ranks the 11th position.

According to WHO an accident is an event, independent of human will, caused by an outside force acting rapidly and resulting in bodily or mental injury. Accidents are undoubtedly one of the chief causes of mortality and morbidity in children. Education plays a great role in prevention of accidents like vaccination prevent six killer diseases [1].

The preschool children age is a troublesome age. Although this can be a challenging time for parents and child as both of them learn to know each other better, it is extremely an important period for developmental achievement and intellectual growth. Toddlers are midway between complete dependency and requiring independence and mothers plays a major role in this process. Although preschool children have real drive for autonomy or independence, their judgment about safety and appropriate behavior is very poor. It is important to supervise these young explorers so that their natural curiosity does not lead them into dangerous situations that can result in injury.

Case Presentation

Medicines should not be kept within the reach of young children. Household materials like kerosene, burning stoves, buckets with water are left exposed with nobody standing guard. This is nothing short of laxity on the part of the parents. Falls from then stairs while climbing are common. Laceration is common among the kids when they play with knives and forks. Head injury is common after fall from the stairs. Parental carelessness especially mothers lack of supervision and ignorance are the chief factors for accidents at home. Most accidents at home can be prevented in developing countries; there are valid factors, which affect the health of children. Adopting appropriate preventive measures and raising the level of knowledge of people is required [2].

Statement of the problem

A study to assess the knowledge and practice regarding prevention of home accidents among mothers of under five children at Milaganoor.

Objectives of the study

- To assess the level knowledge and practice regarding prevention of home accident among mothers of under five children.
- To find out the relationship between the knowledge and practice regarding prevention of home accidents among mothers of under five children.
- To find out the association between the knowledge, practice and the demographic variables age of the mother, number of children, type of family, age of the child, gender of the child, educational status, family income, type of housing.

Hypotheses

All hypotheses will be tested at 0.05 level of significance:

- There will be a significant relationship between knowledge and practice regarding prevention of home accidents among mothers of under five children.
- There will be a significant association between knowledge, practice and the demographic variables of mothers of under five children.

Research approach

The research approach adopted for this study was descriptive approach.

Research design

The design used in this study was a descriptive design. The tools used for this study was semi-structured knowledge questionnaire and observation checklist and sample was interviewed by using semi structured knowledge questionnaire. Milaganoor was selected for this study [3].

Setting of the study

The study was conducted in Milaganoor.

Sample and sampling technique

Convenient sampling method was used for sample selection. A sample size was 60 mothers of under five children were taken for the study according to the inclusion criteria.

Sampling technique

A convenient sampling technique was adopted for the study. The samples were selected according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria [4].

Sample size

The study consisted of 60 mothers of under five children.

Assumption

- Home accident is very common in children in the group of 1 yr-5 yrs and is the leading cause of morbidity and morality.
- The knowledge of mothers may influence the prevention and control of home accidents.
- Selected demographic variables may influence the knowledge and practice of mothers regarding prevention of home accidents [5].

Limitations

- The study is limited to mothers who are residing at Milaganoor.

- The sample size is limited to 60.
- The study contains only the mothers of under five children.
- Study period was limited to only 6 weeks.

Description of the final tool

The tools used for this study was semi-structured knowledge questionnaire and observation checklist and sample was interviewed by using semi structured knowledge questionnaire. Milaganoor was selected for this study. Convenient sampling method was used for sample selection. A sample size was 60 mothers of under five children were taken for the study according to the inclusion criteria [6].

Results and Discussion

The major findings of the study;

- Majority (55%) of the mothers belong to the age group of 21 yrs to 25 yrs.
- Most (75%) of the mothers had 1 to 2 children.
- Majority (56.7%) mothers were belonged to nuclear family.
- Most (70%) of children belonged to the age group of 1 yr to 3 yrs. And 53.3% of children were male.
- Majority (65%) of the mothers had primary school education.
- Majority (40%) had a monthly income Rs.1001-2000.
- Most of (76.7%) of the mother were housewives.
- Majority (50%) of mothers had mixed type of house.

Among the mothers of under five children 17 (28.3%) had adequate knowledge, 19 (31.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge and 24 (40%) had inadequate knowledge.

Among the mothers 17 (28.3%) had good practice, 14 (23.3%) had average practice and 29 (48.4%) had poor practice.

The computed R-value is +0.2428. The positive correlation was found between knowledge and practice. Mothers who had adequate knowledge they followed good practices. Overall, when the knowledge is adequate, the practice is also good [7].

There is a significant association exist between the knowledge and the educational status of the mother and type of housing. There is significant association exist between the practice and the educational status of the mother, family income and type of housing (Table 1).

S. No	Characteristic	Frequency n=60	Percentage (%)
1	**Age of the mother**		
	Below 20	15	25
	21-25	33	55
	26-30	12	20
2	**Number of children**		
	44593	45	75
	44684	15	25
3	**Type of family**		
	Joint	26	43.3
	Nuclear	34	56.7
4	**Age of the child**		
	1 yr-3 yrs	42	70
	3 yrs-5 yrs	18	30
5	**Gender of the child**		
	Male	32	53.3
	Female	28	46.7
6	**Educational status**		
	I Literate	10	16.7
	Primary school	39	65
	High school	11	18.3
7	**Family income**		
	Below 1000	22	36.7
	1001-2000	24	40
	Above 2000	14	23.3
8	**Occupation**		
	Manual	14	23.3
	House wife	46	76.7
9	**Type of housing**		
	Pucca	18	30
	Mixed	30	50
	Kutcha	12	20

Table 1. Distribution of sample according to the demographic variables.

This showed that most of the mothers 33 (55%) were between the age group of 21 yrs to 25 yrs and 15 (25%) were below 20 years and 12 (20%) belonged to the age group of 26-30. The data on the number of children shows majority of the mothers 45 (75%) living as nuclear families, and 26 (43.3%) were living in joint families. With regard to distribution of age of the child 42 (70%) were between 1 yrs-3 yrs and 18 (30%) were found to be between 3 yrs to 5 yrs. There were 32 (53.3%) males shows that 39 (65%) mothers had primary school education and 11 (18.3%) were illiterates and 10 (16.7%) had high school education. Considering the family income 24 (40%) were getting Rupees 1000-2000, 22 (36.7%) of them were getting above Rupees 2000. Occupation status revealed that 46 (76.7%) were house wife and 14 (23.3%) were manual worker. With regard to the type of housing 18 (30%) were living in pucca house, 30 (50%) were living in mixed house and 12 (20%) were living in the kutcha house [8].

This shows that the mothers 17 (28.3%) had adequate knowledge. 19 (31.7%) mothers had moderately adequate knowledge 24 (40%) had inadequate knowledge (Table 2).

S. No	Level of knowledge	Frequency n=60	Percentage (%)
1	Adequate	17	28.3

2	Moderately adequate	19	31.7
3	Inadequate	24	40

Table 2. Distribution of the samples according to the level of knowledge regarding prevention of home accidents among mothers of under five children.

This data has been arrived based on the observation of practice regarding prevention of home accidents. The samples were classified as follows; 17 (28.3%) had good practice, 14 (23.3%) had average practice and 29 (48.4%) had poor practice (Table 3).

Sl. No	Level of practice	Frequency n=60	Percentage (%)
1	Good practice	17	28.3
2	Moderately adequate	14	23.3
3	Poor practice	29	48.4

Table 3. Distribution of the samples according to the level of practice regarding prevention of home accidents among mothers of under five children.

To find out the relationship between knowledge and practice co-efficient correlation was used. The computed 'r' value is +0.2428. The positive correlation was found between knowledge and practice. Hence it was interpreted that mother who had adequate knowledge, followed good practices (Table 4).

Sl. No	Particular	Knowledge	Practice	'R'
1	Adequate good	17	17	0.2428
2	Moderately adequate average	19	14	
3	Inadequate poor	24	29	

Table 4. Relationship between knowledge and their practice of mothers of under children prevention of home accidents.

To find out the association between knowledge and the demographic variables 'F' ratio and 't' test were computed. In the present study the calculated value is greater than the table value. So the null hypothesis is rejected and a research hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is a significant association exist between the knowledge and the educational status of the mother and type of housing [9]. Present study shows that the calculated value is lesser than the table value. So the null hypothesis is accepted, and a research hypothesis is rejected. Hence there is no significant association between the number of children, type of family, age of the mother, age of the child, gender of the child, occupation, family income and the knowledge of mothers of under five children (Tables 5 and 6).

S No	Characte-ristics	Frequency n=60	Mean	SD	F Ration	Remark
1	**Age of the mother**					
	Below 20	15	64.33	10.15		
	21-25	33	64.24	10.76	0.0037	NS
	26-30	12	64.58	16.01		
2	**Educational status**					
	Illiterate	10	56.5	10.81	3.53	S
	Primary	39	65	10.63		
	Higher school	11	69.09	13.19		
3	**Family income**					
	Below 1000	22	61.82	11.71	0.962	NS
	1001-2000	24	65	12.07		
	Above 2000	14	67.14	10.69		
4	**Type of housing**					
	Pucca	18	72.78	6.24	8.6417	S
	Mixed	30	61.17	11.04		
	Kutcha	12	59.58	13.22		

Table 5. Association between the knowledge and the demographic variables.

Sl. No.	Characte ristics	Frequency	Mean	SD	'T' Value	Remark
1	Number of children	45	63.55	11.34	-0.86	NS
2	**Type of family**					
	Joint	26	65	11.74	0.39	NS
	Nuclear	34	63.82	11.68		
3	**Age of the child**					
	1-3 yrs	42	65-47	12.38	1.3	NS
	3-5 yrs	18	61.66	9.36		
4	**Gender of the child**					
	Male	32	63.28	12.54	-0.76	NS
	Female	28	65.53	10.57		
5	**Occupation**					
	Manual	14	63.93	13.89	-0.13	NS
	House wife	46	64.46	11.02		

Table 6. Type of family, age of the mother, age of the child, gender of the child, occupation, family income and the knowledge of mothers of under five children. Note: NS: Not Significant, S: Significant.

To find out the association between the practice and the demographic variables the following null hypothesis is formulated [10,11].

There is no significant association between the practice and the demographic variables such as age of the mother, number of children, type of family, age of the child, gender of the child, educational status of mother, family Income, occupation, type of housing (Table 7).

S. No	Characte-ristics	Frequency n=60	Mean	SD	F Ratio	Remark
1	**Age of the mother**					
	Below 20	33	45.15	13.02	0.1046	NS
	21-25	33	45.16	13.02		
	26-30	12	45.56	16.9		
2	**Education of the mother**					
	Illiterate	10	39.33	7.5	3.5354	S
	Primary	39	43.42	9.57		
	Higher secondary	11	54.85	19.63		
3	**Family income**					
	Below 1000	22	39.7	6.1	7.377	S
	1001-2000	24	43.89	9.96		
	Above 2000	14	54.52	18.24		
4	**Type of housing**					
	Pucca	18	51.85	17.12	4.7895	S
	Mixed	30	42.67	9.03		
	Kutcha	12	39.72	7.58		
5	**Number of children**					
	1-2 yrs	45	46.44	11.45	1.54	NS
	3 yrs and above	15	40	14.85		
6	**Type of family**					
	Joint	26	46.15	13.32	0.7	NS
	Nuclear	34	43.82	12.06		
7	**Age of child**					
	1-3	42	45.24	13.79	0.44	NS
	3-5	18	43.89	9.38		
8	**Gender of the child**					
	Male	32	43.44	10.86	-0.9	NS
	Female	28	46.43	14.31		
9	**Occupation**					
	Manual	14	45.24	11.75	0.14	NS
	Housewife	46	44.71	12.93		

Table 6. Association between practice and the demographic variables.

To find out the association between practice and the demographic variable 'F' ratio 't' test were computed [12,13]. Present study shows that the calculated value is greater than the table value [14]. So the null hypothesis is rejected, and a research hypothesis is accepted [15]. Hence there is a significant association between the practice and the educational status of the mother, family income and type of housing [16]. Present studies show that the calculated value is lesser than the table value. So the null hypothesis is accepted, and a research hypothesis is rejected [17]. Hence there is no significant association between the practice and the number of children, type of family, age of the mother, gender of the child, age of the child and occupation [18].

Recommendations

From the findings of the presents study it can be recommended as follows;

- A similar kind of study can be conducted for a larger group.
- A study to determine the effectiveness of home visit by health personnel in the prevention of home accidents can also be undertaken.
- Educational programs can be designed to create an awareness among mothers to prevent home accidents of under five children.
- A similar study can be conducted by using experimental and control group.
- A comparative study can be carried out of mothers of prevention of childhood accidents in urban and rural community.

Implications of nursing practice

Mother is a key person for providing care to children promotion of health through educational is one of the important roles of the nurse. Through education mothers can be helped to imbibe healthy practices in their day-to-day life thus promoting the health of their children.

There are several educational strategies to disseminate health information like street play, role- play, T.V, radio, newspaper, magazine, advertisement etc. Booklet is one of the easiest methods by preparing booklets nurses can educate the women in the community as well as in any other settings. This knowledge, which in turn will influences their practice in the management of prevention of home accident.

Implication in nursing education

The findings of the study have some implication for nursing education. Nursing education should prepare nurses to impart the information regarding prevention and management of injuries for under five children and help the community to

decrease the mortality, disability and morbidity rate related to injuries.

It can also be added in the nursing curriculum as a method of educational strategy for providing health information, so that it can be practiced during their home visits.

Implications in nursing administration

Nurse administrator can also take the initiative in imparting health information through individual and group teaching, booklets for those who can read and write. Nurse administrator has to organize the inservice educational programme for other nurses to motivate and to participate in those activities. Those handouts will be a future guide.

Conclusion

There is a need for extensive and intensive research in this area so that the strategies for educating the mothers to cope up with the home accidents. Nursing students should be encourage to show more interests in the field of research regarding prevention of home accidents.

Limitations

The convenient sampling method is used for this study. Hence the study was limited to generalization.

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