

Knowledge Regarding Immunization among Mothers of Under Five Children

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ABSTRACT

Introduction:- Immunizations is one of the most successful and core effective public health investigation to bring future generation healthy. According to Health and Family welfare Dept of India, the under five child mortality rate was 28 per 1000 live births (2021) and six-killer disease are among the major cause for death of children.

Method and material:- A quantitative survey research design was used to assess the knowledge regarding immunization among mothers of under five children. The study was conducted in Doiwala Block in Dehradun. 108 under five children mothers were selected by Non-probability Convenient sampling technique. Data was analysed by using descriptive and inferential analysis method

Results: Research finding reveals that less than half (39.81%) of mother's had good knowledge, 33 (30.55%) mothers had very good knowledge, and very less (8.33%) had excellent knowledge regarding benefits of immunization for children

Conclusion:- Based on the research findings it was concluded that maximum mothers not have excellent knowledge regarding advantages of child immunization in rural area, to achieve 100% immunization of children, we have need awareness programme for mothers in rural community areas.

KEYWORDS: *knowledge, immunization, mothers of under-five child*

INTRODUCTION

Vaccines are the world's safest method to protect children from life-threatening diseases like diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, influenza and measles. Vaccination save more than five lives every minute – preventing up to three million deaths in a year.⁽¹⁾

Immunization is the process whereby a person is made immune or resistance to an infectious disease. Immunization is a key component of primary health care.⁽²⁾ Immunization is one of the most effective, safest and efficient Public Health Interventions for the prevention from several disease among under five children.⁽³⁾

India has the highest number of morbidity and mortality rate among under five children and the impact of Immunization on childhood morbidity & mortality has been great, it's full potential has yet to

be reached. Routine immunization is one of the most cost effective public health interventions & it was introduced in India in 1978. Yet despite the concrete efforts of government & other health agencies, a large proportion of vulnerable infants & children in India remain unimmunized.⁽⁴⁾

According to UNICEF (2019) 1.4 million children were not vaccinated in India⁽⁵⁾.

According to the 'Health in India' report recently published by the National Statistical Organisation, 40 % of children were not fully vaccinated and only 59.2% of children under five years were fully immunized. Report highlight that in India 5 lakh deaths of children was due to vaccine-preventable diseases (6)

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Vaccinating the children is a cost-effective method to prevent communicable diseases and improve the survival of children. Government of India is implementing different strategies for full coverage of immunization⁽⁷⁾

Every country has included immunization in their health system goals but still there are many children who didn't get immunized due to lack of awareness⁽⁸⁾. According to the Ministry of Health and Family welfare in 2016 the under-five child mortality rate was 45 per 1000 live births in India and in Uttarakhand it was 38 per 1000 live birth and the six-killer disease was the major causes of death among children.⁽⁹⁾

Azmi f, Dr. Prakash R. have conduct non experimental survey research study on knowledge towards immunization among mothers in Moradabad, UP. Thirty under five mothers were selected by convenient sampling technique. Research result **Results:-**

revealed that 66.66% mothers had poor knowledge regarding immunization and very less 10% mothers had good knowledge. Researcher felt the need of awareness among mothers about benefits of Immunization so that we can achieve 100 % immunization of under five children³.

Method:-

A quantitative research approach with cross sectional survey research design was adopted to assess the knowledge regarding immunization among mothers of under five children. A total of 108 mothers residing in Doiwala Block, Dehradun were selected by Convenient sampling technique. The tools used for data collection was structured knowledge questionnaires Research data was collected from 12 June 2017- 20 June 2017. Ethical Committee permission was obtained from the concerned institutional authorities. Written consent was obtained from study participants.

Table -1 Demographic characteristic of mothers by frequency and percentages. (n =108)

S. No	Demographic variables	Frequency(f)	Percentage (%)
1.	Age in years		
	• 18-30	87	80.55
	• 31-42	21	19.44
2.	Educational status		
	• Educated	94	87.03
	• Uneducated	14	12.96
3.	Occupation of Mother		
	• Housewife	91	84.25
	• Working	17	15.74
4.	Monthly family income		
	• 1000-50000	103	95.37
	• 50001-above	5	4.62
5.	Number of under five children in family		
	• 1-2	107	99.07
	• 3-4	1	0.92
6.	Type of family		
	• Joint	55	50.92
	• Nuclear	53	49.07
7.	Place of delivery		
	• Hospital	108	100
	• Home	0	0
8.	Previous knowledge regarding immunization		
	• Yes	104	96.29
	• No	4	3.70
9.	Source of previous knowledge		
	• Multi-media	38	36.53
	• people	66	63.46

Table -1 shows that majority of (80.55%) mothers were aged between 18-30 years, Majority of mothers (84.25%) were housewife. Majority of mothers (99.07%) have one-two under five child in family. Majority of mothers (96.2%) have previous knowledge regarding immunization

Table No- 2 Frequency and percentage distribution of Knowledge score of mothers.

n=108

S. No	Level of knowledge	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1.	Poor	3	2.77
2.	Average	20	18.51
3.	Good	76	70.37
4.	Excellent	9	8.33

Table no-2 shows that maximum mothers (70.37%) have good knowledge regarding immunization of children. Negligible number of mothers (8.33%) have excellent knowledge regarding immunization.

Discussion:-

The study finding highlight that most of mothers have good knowledge regarding immunization of under five children but very less (8.33%) mothers have excellent knowledge regarding benefits of immunization of under five children. When all the mother should have excellent knowledge regarding benefits of immunization then only we can achieve full immunization coverage of under five children.

Limitation:-In this study no intervention were given mothers, only the knowledge of mother's were assessed.

Recommendation:-

- A comparative research study can be done between rural and urban area mothers
- Interventional research study can done for upgrading knowledge of rural mother regarding benefits of Immunization

Conclusion: - Based on the research finding it was concluded that most of mother had good knowledge regarding immunization, Therefore necessity for awareness programme for mothers regarding benefits of Immunization.

Conflict of Interest: - There is no conflict of interest

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