ASSESSTHE KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE REGARDING COVID -19AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTSAT SELECTED COLLEGE OF BENGALURU, KARNATAKA, WITH A VIEW TO DEVELOP AN INFORMATIONAL BOOKLET

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students. The aim of the study was to assess the knowledge and attitude of undergraduate students with a view to develop a booklet, at selected college of Bengaluru, Karnataka." Descriptive design was adopted with quantitative approach for the study.A validated structured knowledge questionnaire and structured attitude statements using 5-point Likert scale was developed to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding Ovid -19among undergraduate students.100 undergraduate students were selected by using simple random sampling technique. The results revealed that among 100 respondents the mean knowledge score regarding Covid -19is 13.66 with SD of 2.133 and the mean attitude score of respondents towards Covid -19is 49.64 with SD of 6.952. The result showed that there is a positive correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students. The result also showed that there is no significant association between knowledge and attitude with selected demographic variables. After the study, informational booklet was provided to all the samples.

Key words:

Covid -19disease, Knowledge, Attitude, Undergraduate students, Informational Booklet

Introduction:

Corona virus disease 2019(COVID-19) caused by the SARS-CoV-2 novel human corona virus was first reported in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. Following the report from China to the World Health Organization (WHO), it declared the disease as a public health emergency on January 30th 2020. The disease quickly spread to all continents and on 11th March 2020 it was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization.

The findings of the first national population-based on survey indicated that 0.73% of adults in India were exposed to SARS-CoV-2 infection amounting to 6.4 million infections in total by early May 2020.Again, the Second wave of Covid -19started on March 2021. This second wave was intense than the first wave. At the end of the April, India was the found to be the leading country in new and active cases. On 30[th]April 2021, India became the first country to report over 400000 newly infected cases in period of 24 hours. Again the third wave of Covid -19started from the third week of November 2021. During the months of January & February 2022, the third wave Covid deaths had peaked to 4,35. Though majority of Indian had received Covid -19vaccination, India was reporting around 7000 – 9000 daily new Covid -19cases in the month of November. Universities, colleges and schools are the places where students go and study in close proximity with each other. These are the places where students come together from all nations of the world.

Hence it is necessary for the youth to get proper knowledge about Covid -19so that they will be able to keep themselves safe from the Covid -19pandemic and also educate others.

Objectives

1. To assess the level of knowledge regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students at selected college in Bengaluru, Karnataka
2. To assess the attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students at selected college in Bengaluru, Karnataka
3. To find out the correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19 among undergraduate students at selected college of Bengaluru, Karnataka
4. To find out the association between level of knowledge with that of selected socio-demographic variables of undergraduate students at selected college of Bengaluru, Karnataka
5. To find out the association between attitude with that of selected socio-demographic variables of undergraduate students at selected college of Bengaluru, Karnataka
6. To prepare and develop informational booklet on Covid -19 disease and its prevention

Hypothesis:

H_1: There will be a significant correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students

H_2: There may be a significant association between the knowledge regarding Covid -19with selected socio-demographic variables

H_3: There may be a significant association between the attitude regarding Covid -19with selected socio-demographic variables

H_{01}: There may not be significant correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students

H_{02}: There may not be any significant association between the knowledge regarding Covid -19with selected socio-demographic variables

H_{03}: There may not be any significant association between the attitude regarding Covid -19with selected socio-demographic variables

Materials and methods

Research setting

The study was conducted at N.M.K.R.V Women's Degree College situated in Bengaluru.

Population

The accessible population included female undergraduate students from selected colleges in Bengaluru.

Sample

The sample size was 100 undergraduate students.

Sampling technique

Simple random sampling technique was used for this study.

Inclusion criteria

The present study included undergraduate students who were:

- Willing to participate in the study
- Available at the time of data collection

Exclusion criteria

The present study excludedundergraduate students who were:

- Absent at the time of data collection
- Not willing to participate in the study

The tool consisted of 3 sections.

Section-A: Demographic data.

Section -B: Structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge regarding Covid -19which consisted of 24 multiple choice questions.

Section -C: Structured attitude statements using 5pointlikert scale to assess the attitude towards Covid -19among undergraduate students.

The data was analysed by the means of descriptive statistics and inferential statistics.

Descriptive statistics

Mean, median, mode, standard deviation, percentage distribution, to describe the sample characters.

Inferential statistics

Chi-square test was used to know the level of association between knowledge and attitude regarding Covid - 19 with selected demographic variables.

Frequency and percentage distribution of respondent knowledge level on Covid -19disease.
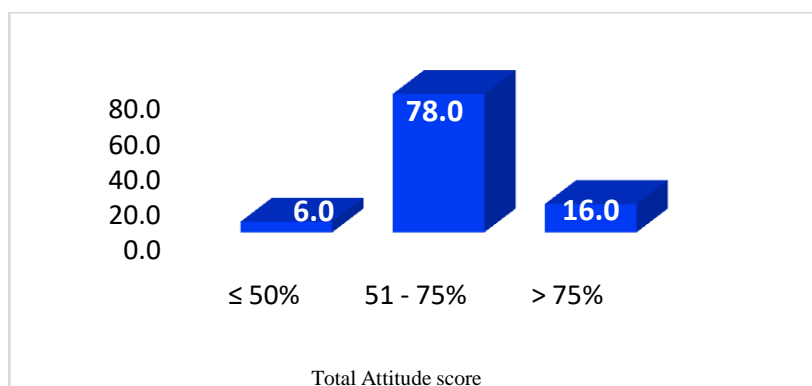
Total knowledge score	Frequency	Percent
≤ 50%	0	0.0
51 - 75%	84	84.0
>75%	16	16.0
Total	100	100.0

Overall Mean Knowledge Scores, Standard Deviation and median of Respondents regarding Covid -19Disease

	Range	Mean	SD	Median
Total knowledge score	10 – 17	13.66	2.133	14.00

Frequency and percentage distribution of respondent attitude score on Covid -19disease.

Distribution of respondents based on attitude score regarding covid-19

Total Attitude score

Overall mean attitude scores of respondents on Covid -19disease

	Range	Mean	SD	Median
Total attitude score	37 – 63	49.64	6.952	49.00

Correlation between knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students

Variables	Range	Mean	SD	Median	R	P value
Knowledge	10 – 17	13.66	2.133	14.00	0.083	0.412
Attitude score	37 – 63	49.64	6.952	49.00		

Association of knowledge with selected socio-demographic variables.

Demographic variables	Responses	Total knowledge score		Chi-square value	χ² Table value
		Below median	Above median		
Age (yrs)	18 – 19	19	9	d.f=2 1.751	5.991
	19 – 20	27	20		
	> 20	18	7		
Religion	Hindu	33	23	d.f=2 4.591	5.991
	Muslim	17	11		
	Christian	14	2		
Marital status	Single	57	36	Fisher's exact probability = 0.039	
	Married	7	0		
Stream of study	B Com	17	6	d.f=1 1.274	3.841
	Arts/ Management	47	30		
Area of residence	Urban	53	30	d.f=1 0.004	3.841
	Rural	11	6		
Education of father	Intermediate	11	6	d.f=4 1.228	9.488
	SSLC	15	6		
	PUC	13	9		
	UG	16	8		
	PG & above	9	7		

ducation of mother	Intermediate	11	7	d.f=4 4.244	9.488
	SSLC	11	4		
	PUC	25	9		
	UG	9	9		
	PG & above	8	7		
Occupation of father	Government/ Private service	62	34	Fisher's exact probability = 0.617	
	Retired	2	2		
Occupation of mother	Private business/ Self employed	22	11	d.f=1 0.152	3.841
	Home maker	42	25		
Source of knowledge	Social media	40	28	d.f=1 2.471	3.841
	Family and friends/ Others	24	8		
H/o previous Covid-19 positive infection	Yes	42	25	d.f=1 0.152	3.841
	No	22	11		
H/o family members infected with Covid-19	Yes	57	32	Fisher's exact probability 0.61	
	No	7	4		
Co-morbiditiesof family members due to Covid-19	Yes	19	8	d.f=1 0.651	3.841
	No	45	28		

P value=0.05 level of significance

Association of Attitude with selected socio-demographic variables

Demographic variables	Responses	Total attitude score		Chi-square value	χ² Table value
		Below median	Above Median		
Age (yrs)	18 – 19	15	13	d.f=2 0.876	5.991
	19 – 20	26	21		
	> 20	11	14		
Religion	Hindu	29	27	d.f=2 0.734	5.991
	Muslim	16	12		
	Christian	7	9		
Marital status	Single	48	45	Fisher's exact probability = 0.545	
	Married	4	3		
Stream of study	B Com	14	9	d.f=1 0.941	3.841
	Arts/ Management	38	39		
Area of residence	Urban	41	42	d.f=1 1.325	3.841
	Rural	11	6		

Education of father	Intermediate	9	8	d.f=4 1.273	9.488
	SSLC	13	8		
	PUC	10	12		
	UG	12	12		
	PG & above	8	8		
Education of mother	Intermediate	8	10	d.f=4 1.424	9.488
	SSLC	9	6		
	PUC	19	15		
	UG	8	10		
	PG & above	8	7		
Occupation of father	Government/ Private service	50	46	Fisher's exact probability = 0.661	
	Retired	2	2		
Occupation of Mother	Self-employed	20	13	d.f=1 1.462	3.841
	Home maker	32	35		
Sourceof knowledge	Social media	35	33	d.f=1 0.024	3.841
	Family and friends/ Others	17	15		
H/o previous Covid -19positive infection	Yes	33	34	d.f=1 0.613	3.841
	No	19	14		
H/o family members infected with Covid-19	Yes	46	43	Fisher's exact probability = 0.557	
	No	6	5		
Co-morbidities of family members due to Covid-19	Yes	13	14	d.f=1 0.220	3.841
	No	39	34		

P value=0.05 level of significance

Results and interpretation

The finding results shows that majority of undergraduate students84(84%) had moderate level of knowledge. Regarding Attitude, most undergraduate students 78(78%) had neutral attitude towards covid-19. There was a positive correlation between the knowledge and attitude regarding Covid -19among undergraduate students, where r=0.083, p value>0.0.5 which is statistically significant. The study also shows there was no any significant association between knowledge and attitude with that of selected demographic variables P value=0.05 level of significance.

Conclusion

The students were cooperated well in participating in the study. The above study stated that the most respondents had moderate knowledge and neutral attitude towards Covid -19disease. Various educational teaching programs and awareness program should be carried out in colleges in order to prevent from Covid -19pandemic in upcoming future.

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