

A study to assess the knowledge regarding Prevention of Diarrhea among Mothers of under five children at rural community area Bangalore.

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**Abstract**

A study to assess the knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children at rural community area Bangalore. The main objective of the study were to assess the knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children and to find out the association between the level of knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhoea among mothers of under five children with selected socio-demographic variables. The present study adopted a non -experimental descriptive research design. For collecting the data, a structured questionnaire was prepared after discussing with experts and reviewing research and non-research materials. Mothers of under five children were the population of the study and the setting of the study was rural community area, Bengaluru. The sample size was 100 mothers which are selected by non-probability convenient sampling technique. Data was collected by demographic Performa and 25 questions to assess knowledge. After analysis of data, it was found that 11% of mothers have inadequate knowledge, the majority (77%) of mothers have Moderate knowledge and the remaining 12 % of mothers have adequate knowledge. The association between knowledge and place of residence is significant with a  $p < 0.05$ .

**Keywords:** Diarrhoea, Knowledge regarding Diarrhoea, Prevention of Diarrhoea, Under five children.

**Introduction:**

The most important demographic in society is children. The most amazing phenomenon is undoubtedly the birth of a kid. As they say, "the child is the family's and society's future." Acute gastroenteritis is most

commonly caused by viruses, bacteria, parasites, and infectious agents worldwide. With 28% of cases resulting in death, rotavirus is the leading cause of severe gastroenteritis in children. The term diarrhea refers to a shift in

the frequency and consistency of stools, such as liquid or watery stools that happen more frequently than three times per day.

The primary causes of diarrhea in children under five years old were childhood wasting (low weight for height score), contaminated water, and inadequate sanitation. These risk factors accounted for 80.4%, 72.1%, and 56.4% of diarrhea-related deaths, respectively. The second most common cause of death for children under five is diarrheal illness, according to WHO statistics from 2017.

An estimated 5,25,000 children under five die from diarrhea every year. Each year, diarrheal illness in children affects around 1.7 billion people worldwide. When it comes to children under five, it is the main cause of malnutrition. Safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and good hygiene can help prevent a large percentage of diarrheal illness.

According to article published in G plus news on June 2019, Assam recorded the highest number of deaths due to diarrhea in 2018. There were 439 cases of deaths due to diarrhea in Assam. In the same year 2,34,578 cases of diarrhea were detected in Assam which was according to report of Central Bureau of Health Intelligence under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Diarrhea is mainly transmitted because of poor environmental sanitation, ingestion of contaminated food or water, contact with infected soil, utensils, etc. In order to control

transmission of diarrhea we need to maintain personal and domestic cleanliness, hygienic food preparation and storage, clean and plentiful water supply and sanitary excreta and refuse disposal. After reviewing many literatures, based on incidence and mortality rate of diarrhea, inadequate knowledge on preventive measures of diarrhea, it is found that awareness and information should be provided to the mothers of under five children. As the mothers are primary caregivers, so the investigator felt the need for assessing the knowledge of mothers regarding diarrhea.

**Objective:**

1. To assess the knowledge of under-five mothers regarding prevention of diarrhea.
2. To find out the association between knowledge level of mothers regarding prevention of diarrhea and selected socio-demographic variable.

**Methodology**

A non-experimental research design was adopted to conduct the study. A total number of 100 samples were selected by using non probability convenient sampling technique. Study instrument was structured questionnaire used by the researcher, section 1 consists of demographic variables and section -2consists of structured knowledge questionnaire. The collected data were analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

**Section -1: Demographic variables of mothers of Underfive children**

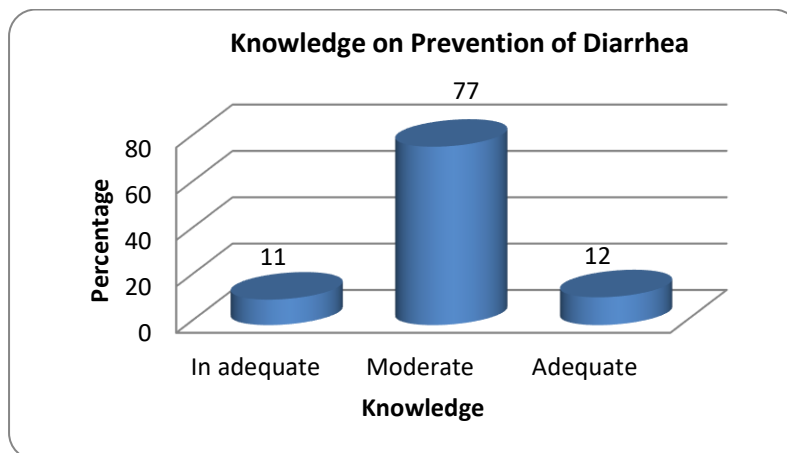
**Table 1: Demographic description of sample by frequency and percentage of demographic data, N =100.**

SL Number	Demographic variable	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age of Mother		
	a. Below 20	7	7
	b. 21-25	21	21
	c. 26-30	36	36
	d. Above 30	36	36

2	Education level of mother		
	a. Primary education	21	21
	b. Secondary education	43	43
	c. Higher secondary education	26	26
	d. Degree	25	25
	e. Diploma/ITI	17	17
3	Occupation of mother		
	a. Home maker/house wife	42	42
	b. Government employee		
	c. Self-employee/business	18	18
	d. Coolie/daily pay role worker		
	e. Private employee	22	22
	f. Farmer		
4	Number of under five children		
	a. 1	57	57
	b. 2	25	25
	c. 3	18	18
5	Family size		
	a. 1	7	7
	b. 2	18	18
	c. 3 and above	75	75

### Assessment of level of knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhea among mothers of under five children

Table 2: Showing knowledge score regarding prevention of diarrhea among under five mothers residing at rural areas at Bangalore.



S. No	Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1	In adequate Knowledge	11	11%
2	Moderate Knowledge	77	77%
3	Adequate Knowledge	12	12%
		100	100%

The above table shows that, majority of the mothers of under five children have Moderate level of knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhea.

Table 3: Mean, standard deviation values of knowledge score regarding prevention of diarrhea among under five mothers  
N = 100.

S. No	Categories	Maximum Score	Mean N=100	Standard Deviation N=100
1	Level of Knowledge	25	10.32	2.78

The above reveals the mean, SD and improvement of knowledge score on prevention of diarrhea among mothers of under-five children. With regard to Knowledge, the pre-test mean was 10.32 and standard deviation was 2.78.

**Section-3: Association between pre-test knowledge regarding Prevention of Diarrhea among mothers of underfive children with their selected demographic variables.**

The results of Chi-square analysis show the outcomes of association between knowledge regarding Prevention of Diarrhoea with selected demographic variables. The chi square test was carried out to determine the association of knowledge regarding Prevention of Diarrhea with selected demographic variables such as Age, Religion, Education of the mother, Occupation of the mother, Family income, No. of children in the family.

The above result shows that the knowledge on Prevention of Diarrhoea was significantly associated with Age ( $\chi^2=5.39$ ,  $df=3$ ), Education of the Mother ( $\chi^2=4.87$ ,  $df=4$ ), number of under-five children ( $\chi^2=7.23$ ,  $df=2$ ) and not significantly associated with

Occupation of the mother, Family size at 5% ( $P<0.05$ )

**Recommendation** The same study can be conducted in different cities to compare the result. The same study can be repeated on large sample so as to generalize the result. The short-term training programmes its effectiveness can be analysed through the pre-& post-test method. Similar kind of study can be conducted among different population.

**Conclusion:** This study attempted to assess the knowledge regarding Prevention of Diarrhoea among mothers of under five children in Selected rural community area. Descriptive research design was used for the study. The content validity and reliability of the tool was done, which suggested that the tool was reliable. The result of the study shows that most of the mothers of under five children have moderate knowledge regarding the prevention of Diarrhoea.

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