

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge on pneumonia among mothers at selected hospital, Puducherry

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Abstract

Pneumonia is an infection that inflames the air sacs in one or both lungs. The air sacs may fill with fluid or pus (purulent material), causing cough with phlegm or pus, fever, chills, and Difficulty breathing. Pneumonia and other lower respiratory tract infections are the leading cause of death worldwide. Pneumonia affects children and families everywhere, but is most prevalent in south asia and sub-saharan africa. The study was undertaken with the objective to assess the knowledge level of mothers regarding pneumonia in children .Non- experimental descriptive research design was used to assess the knowledge level of mothers on pneumonia in children by a structured questionnaire the findings of the present study concluded that 43 (61.42%) of mothers have moderate knowledge regarding pneumonia in children, 17 (24.28%) have adequate knowledge whereas only 8 (11.42%) have inadequate knowledge regarding pneumonia in children

Key words: 1. knowledge, 2.Mothers, 3.pneumonia in children

Introduction

Pneumonia is an infection that inflames the air sacs in one or both lungs. The air sacs may fill With fluid or pus (purulent material), causing cough with phlegm or pus, fever, chills, and Difficulty breathing. A variety of organisms, including bacteria, viruses and fungi, can cause Pneumonia. Pneumonia and other lower respiratory tract infections are the leading cause of Death worldwide. Pneumonia affects children and families everywhere, but is most prevalent In south asia and sub-saharan africa.

A child dies of pneumonia every 39 seconds. Pneumonia kills more children than any other infectious disease, claiming the lives of over 800,000 children under five every year, or around 2,200 every day. This includes over 153,000 newborns . Almost all of these deaths are preventable. Globally, there are over 1,400 cases of pneumonia per 100,000 children, or 1 case per 71 children every year, with the greatest incidence occurring in south asia (2,500 cases per 100,000 children) and west and central africa (1,620 cases per 100,000 children).(UNICEF, April 2021)

Objectives

To assess the existing level of knowledge regarding pneumonia in children among mothers.

Research approach: quantitative research approach was adopted in this study

Research design: non – experimental descriptive research design was used to explore the knowledge regarding pneumonia in children

Research variables: In this study the research variables was assessment of knowledge regarding pneumonia in children

Research setting: the study was conducted at senthil women & child hospital, puducherry.

Population: in this study, population comprises of all mothers of children admitted in senthil women & child hospital, Puducherry.

Sample: the samples for this study were mothers of children in the age group of 5-12 years

Sample size: the sample size was 70 mothers of children.

Sampling technique: purposive sampling technique was used for this study.

Sampling criteria:

Inclusion criteria:

- ✓ Mothers of children in the age group of 5-12 years
- ✓ Mothers of children who know to read and write tamil or english
- ✓ Mothers who are willing to participate in the study

Exclusion criteria:

- ❖ Mothers of children who were sick at the time of data collection.
- ❖ Mothers who are not willing to participate in this study

Results

Table:1 : frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge of mothers on pneumonia in children

Level of knowledge	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Adequate	17	24.28 %
Moderately adequate	43	61.42%
Inadequate	08	11.42%

The above table reveals that majority of samples 43 (61.42%) have moderate knowledge of 50 – 75%, 17 (24.28%) have adequate knowledge of >75% and 8 (11.42%) have inadequate knowledge of <50%.

Discussion

Results highlights that among 70 samples, 43 (61.42%) of mothers have moderate knowledge regarding pneumonia in children, 17 (24.28%) have adequate knowledge whereas only 8 (11.42%) have inadequate knowledge regarding pneumonia in children.

Conclusion

The study concluded that the knowledge regarding pneumonia in children is at adequate level (24.28%). To improve the awareness, many health education programmes can be conducted to impart knowledge to the mother on pneumonia in children.

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