

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE ON FEBRILE SEIZURE AMONG THE MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN IN WORAIYUR MATERNITY CENTRE, TRICHY

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Abstract: Febrile seizure is a common emergency encountered in pediatric practice. Inadequate knowledge could result in parental anxiety, apprehension and improper home management. This study aimed to assess the knowledge on febrile seizure among the mothers of under five children. The pre experimental research design was applied for this study. The study conducted among the 30 mothers of under five children in Woraiyur maternity centre at Trichy. The study revealed that, 16 (53%) of had moderate knowledge, 10 (33%) had inadequate knowledge, only 4 (14%) had adequate knowledge.

Keywords: Febrile seizure, knowledge, maternity centre Trichy

Introduction: A child is precious not only to the parents, family, community and nation, but also to be the world at large children are the assets of our country. Children under five years of age are very small and thin all systems are in developing stage, because of their play activities, poor feeding, and immaturity of immune system causes are frequent attack of infections like respiratory tract infections, diarrhea, and gastroenteritis, etc., A febrile seizure is a seizure occurring in a child, precipitated by fever arising the infection outside the nervous system in a child who is otherwise neurologically normal.

Approximately one in every 25 children will have at least one febrile seizure and more than one that of these children will have additional febrile seizure before they outgrow the tendency to have them children rarely develop their 1st febrile seizure before the age of 6 months or after age of 3.

Need of the study:

Mother's knowledge on care of children greatly influences the health status of child by reducing the mortality and morbidity rate. As mothers are primary care gives therefore mothers are included in the study. Hence it is essential to enhance their knowledge on this condition.

Statement of problem:

A study to assess the knowledge on febrile seizure among the mothers of under five children in Woraiyur, Maternity Centre at Trichy.

Objective:

1. To assess the level of knowledge on febrile seizure among the mothers of under five children.
2. To find out the association between knowledge and demographic variables on febrile seizure among the mothers of under five children.

Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significance association between the level of knowledge regarding febrile seizure among the mothers of under five children.

Methodology:

Pre experimental research design was used to conduct a study at Woraiyur Maternity Centre at Trichy.

The convenient sampling technique was adopted for the study that member of population was selected due to their convenient accessibility. 30 mothers of under five children were selected for this study sample. Permission for conducting the study was obtained from the head of the maternity centre in Woraiyur at Trichy. The purpose of the study was explained and verbal consent was obtained. Each sample has taken 20-30 minutes to complete the questionnaire. Ethical clearance for the study was obtained.

Result and Discussion:

Table: I
Association between the levels of knowledge with the demographic variables

Sl. No.	Demographic Variables	AK	MK	IAK	df	χ^2	'p'
1	Age group						
	a) 15-20	0	3	1	6	3.22	12.59 (NS)
	b) 20-25	5	5	2			
	c) 25-30 &	2	6	0			
	d) 30-35	3	2	1			
2	Level of Education						
	a) Illiterate	0	1	0	6	5.57	12.59 (NS)
	b) primary education	4	3	3			
	c) higher secondary &	1	5	0			
	d) graduate	5	7	1			
3	Occupation						
	a) Daily wages	3	5	2	6	1.91	12.59 (NS)
	b) Agriculture	2	4	2			
	c) Business &	0	2	0			
	d) Private employee	2	7	1			
4	Monthly Income Rs.						
	a) 3k – 5k	3	8	3	6	2.27	12.59 (NS)
	b) 5k – 10k	3	4	0			
	c) 10k – 15k &	2	2	0			
	d) 15k –above	2	2	1			
5	About family						
	a) Nuclear	4	11	2	1	2.15	3.84 (NS)
	b) Joint	6	5	2			
6	No. of Children						
	a) 1	4	7	2	6	0.60	12.59 (NS)
	b) 2 &	6	8	2			
	c) More than 2	0	1	0			
7	Previous experience						
	a) Yes	3	0	0	1	4.66	3.84 (S)*
	b) No	7	16	4			

S*- Significant; NS- Non significant

$p < 0.05$

Abbreviation:

IAK – Inadequate Knowledge

MK –Moderate Knowledge

AK –Adequate Knowledge

This table reveals that demographic variables influence the level of knowledge on febrile seizure. The significant findings of the study were shows that 30 sample 12 (40%) were in the age group of 20-25 years, 13 (33%) were in the graduate, 10 (33%) were daily wages and private employees, 14 (47%) family income Rs. 3k – 5k, 17 (57%) belongs to nuclear family, 16 (53%) mothers have 2 children's, 27 (90%) hadn't having previous exposure on febrile seizure.

The association between selected demographic variable, Chi-square test was used to find out the association. The 'p' value shows that there is significant association between knowledge and demographic variables such as previous experience of handle the child with febrile seizure. No significant associations exist between ages, education, occupation, income, about family and number of children. It concludes that some of the demographic variable influences the level of knowledge on febrile seizure.

The 1st objective was to assess the level of knowledge on febrile seizure among the mothers of under five children.

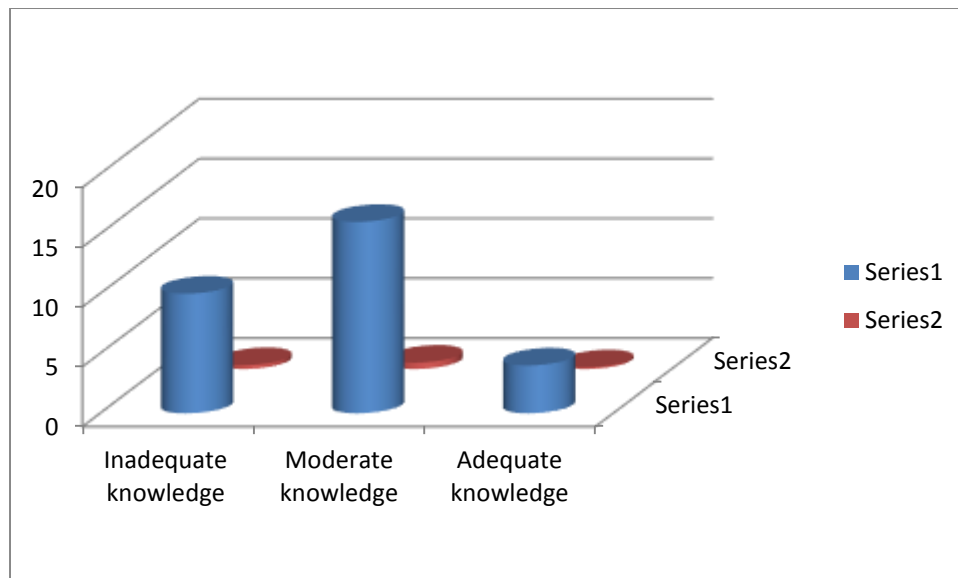


Figure: 1

Assessment of the knowledge on febrile seizure revealed that 10 (33%) had inadequate, 16 (53%) had moderately, 4 (14%) had adequate knowledge. This study was supported by RC, Parmer (2001) conducted a study in department of Pediatric of a territory care centre in a metropolitan city among under five children 4 months – 5 years. To assess the knowledge regarding febrile seizure on mothers were the study was reported the ideas of 77.9% of the parents were inadequate knowledge of the entity of the febrile seizure. 90% didn't carry out any intervention at home prior to taking the child to the hospital an incidence much higher than that the reported in other study which varies from (37.3 – 60%). It is also distressing to note that many parents were not inadequate knowledge for febrile seizure and their complication.

The second objective was to determine the association between knowledge on febrile seizure and demographic variables mothers under five children, the finding shows that there is significant associations between demographic variable such previous exposure of handled the child with febrile seizure and the level of knowledge.

Conclusion:

Febrile seizure is a common emergency encountered in pediatric practice. Mothers have been known to play a vital role in the care of children. Since children within the age bracket for febrile seizure spend most of their day time hours with their mothers. This implies that a convulsing child may likely be first attended to by the mother, thus adequate knowledge of the mother is imperative. Public health education on this subject should be intensified to cater for the mother with poor knowledge of the cause, treatment, and prevention of febrile seizure.

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