

# A Descriptive Study to Assess the Knowledge Regarding Seizure Among Mothers of Under-five Children at Selected Paediatric Hospital in Jaipur City with a View to Develop Informational Booklet

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## Abstract

Children under-five years of age are very small and their all systems are in developing stage. Because of their play activities, poor feedings and immaturity of immune system causes are frequent attack of infections like respiratory tract infection, otitis media, diarrhea, gastroenteritis; etc. Fever is a common manifestation present in most of the infection. In some children severe fever can result seizure. So the care of under-five children is important to decrease morbidity and mortality due to seizure in under-five children.

**Keywords:** Seizures; Mothers of under-five children; Psychological Outcome; Prevention Knowledge.

## Introduction

A child is precious not only to the parents, family, community and nation but also to be the world at large. In fact child is a citizen of world and thus it becomes the responsibility of the wide population of the whole universe to look after the interest of children all over. Children are the assets of our country.<sup>1</sup>

Children under-five years of age are very small and their all systems are in developing stage because of their play activities, poor feedings and immaturity of immune system causes are frequent attack of infections like respiratory tract infection,

otitis media, diarrhea, gastroenteritis etc. Fever is a common manifestation present in most of the infection. In some children severe fever can result seizure. A febrile seizure is a seizure occurring in a child, precipitated by fever arising from infection outside the nervous system in a child who is otherwise neurologically normal.

Approximately one in every 25 children will have at least 1 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 first febrile seizure before the age of 6 months or after 3 years of age.<sup>2</sup>

Persons with childhood onset seizure are at a high risk of poor psychosocial outcomes even without experiencing co-morbidities. It is defined as neurological conditions whereby there is an abnormal electrical discharge from the brain resulting in abnormal involuntary movement of the body.<sup>3</sup>

As we speak fever can lead to seizure, but there are other factors like infection, congenital abnormality, family history and perinatal factors etc. that can cause different types of seizure and sometimes lead to death of child.

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While for health care workers, seizure may be common experience devoid of worrisome implications, for the unformed and inexperienced parents witnessing their child throwing a fit may be a nightmare and a frightening experience.

Speaking to the parents about the disorder, explaining to them the link between fever and other factors and seizure, allaying their fears and anxieties and addressing their concerns about recurrence and seizure will help in reduction of episodes of febrile seizure in children and improves quality of life of the child. Teaching Programs may improve related knowledge on prevention of febrile seizure, reduce misconceptions regarding seizure like it is a divine curse or in is a contagious disease or it affects one intelligence; etc. and improve attitude and perception of care giver regarding seizure. They can sometime also reduce recurrent episodes of febrile seizure and improve compliance with anticonvulsant drugs.

Education is threefold process of imparting knowledge developing skills and interests, attitudes and life values in human life. As health problems depends upon the geographical area and demographical aspect, health education of the mothers is an important part of prevention of health problems.<sup>4</sup>

As mothers are primary caregivers therefore mothers are included in the study hence it become essential to enhance their knowledge on this conditions. This can only be achieved if mothers' knowledge towards childhood seizures is well assessed and documented<sup>5</sup>.

### **Need of the Study**

Children are the future of our society and special gift to the world. Mother's knowledge on care of children greatly influences the health status of child by reducing the mortality and morbidity rate. However, supervision of health of the children is important.<sup>5</sup> It is difficult to convenience the parents, that this is a begin illness, which children will go out off. Parents also may fear allowing their child to attend Nursery school or to be away from them. In case of fever should rapidly appear followed by seizure, the person might not be prepared to handle.<sup>6</sup>

"Seizures cause intense parental anxiety. This coupled with ignorance, is often responsible for the various forms of intervention offered by parents and caretakers when a child has an episode of seizure".<sup>7</sup>

### **Objectives of the Study**

1. To assess the knowledge regarding seizure among mothers of under-five children.
2. To find out association between knowledge and selected demographic variable among mothers of under-five children.
3. To prepare an informational booklet on seizure.

### **Hypothesis**

H<sub>1</sub> - There will be significant association between the knowledge of the mothers of under-five children regarding seizure with selected demographic variable.

### **Results and Discussion**

Analysis is the process of categorizing, ordering, manipulating and summarizing the data to obtain answers to research questions. The purpose of analysis is to reduce data to intelligible and interpretable form so research problem can be studied and tested.

The data obtained was analyzed and presented in 2 different sections :

Section I : Description of demographic variables of mothers of under-five children.

Section II : Analysis of existing knowledge score of mothers of under-five children.

#### **Section I**

*Description of demographic variables of mothers of under-five children.*

This section deals with distribution of participants according to the demographic characteristics.

The obtained data on sample characteristics were described under the sub headings which include age, religion, type of family, education, occupation, family income, number of children, knowledge of any children suffering from seizure, previous knowledge regarding seizure. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and summarized in terms of frequency and percentages.

Distribution of mothers according to the demographic variables (N = 100)

**Table 1:** Shows the frequency and percentage of demographic variables among the mothers

S. N.	Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	<b>Age of mother in years</b>		
	(a) Up to 22 years	11	11
	(b) 23-28 years	60	60
	(a) 29-34 years	22	22
	(d) 35 years and above	7	7
2	<b>Religion</b>		
	(a) Hindu	70	70
	(b) Muslim	18	18
	(c) Christian	10	10
	(d) Others	2	2
3	<b>Type of family</b>		
	(a) Nuclear family	34	34
	(b) Joint family	66	66
4	<b>Educational status of mother</b>		
	(a) Upto Secondary	27	27
	(b) Senior Secondary	42	42
	(c) Graduate	22	22
	(d) Post graduate and above	9	9
5	<b>Occupational status of mother</b>		
	(a) Housewife	72	72
	(b) Private employee	26	26
	(a) Government employee	2	2
6	<b>Family Income</b>		
	(a) 2750 or below 2750/month	4	4
	(b) 2751-4500/month	6	6
	(c) 4501-7400/month	36	36
	(d) 7401-12500/month	21	21
	(e) 12501 or above 12501/month	33	33
7	<b>Number of children</b>		
	(a) 1	25	25
	(b) 2	46	46
	(c) 3	20	20
	(d) 4 or above	9	9
8	<b>Have seen any child suffering from seizure</b>		
	(a) Yes	22	22
	(b) No	78	78
9a	<b>Previous knowledge regarding seizure in children</b>		
	(a) Yes	28	28
	(b) No	72	72
9b	<b>Source of information</b>		
	(a) Health personnel	21	21
	(b) Family and relatives	7	7

## Section II

### *Level of knowledge of mothers of under-five children regarding seizure in children.*

In order to find out the level of knowledge of mothers, a four point scale was used. The percentage scores were graded arbitrarily as follows: 0-33 poor knowledge, 34-59 average knowledge, 60-74 good

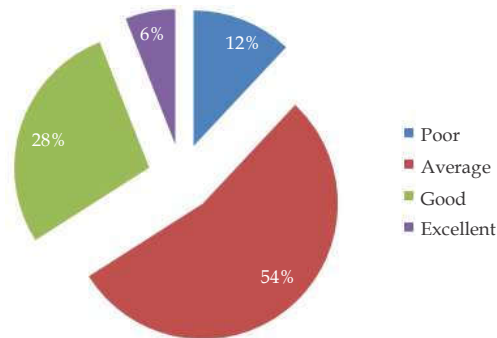
knowledge and 75-100 excellent knowledge.

Assessment of knowledge of mothers of under-five children showed that 12% of the Mothers had poor knowledge regarding seizure children, 54% had average knowledge, 28% of the mothers had good knowledge and 6% of mothers had excellent knowledge regarding seizure in children.

**Table 2:** Assessment of knowledge of under five children regarding seizure

(N = 100)

S. No.	Level of knowledge	% score	No. of Mothers	% of Mothers
1.	Poor	0-33	12	12
2.	Average	34-59	54	54
3.	Good	60-74	28	28
4.	Excellent	75-100	6	6

**Fig. 1:** Distribution of mothers of under-five children according to their level of knowledge regarding seizure in children.**Suggestions:**

- Reinforcement of health education should be initiated in hospitals during visits.
- Health care personnel's can conduct camps, dramas and puppet shows to create awareness regarding prevention and first-aid management of seizure in children among mothers.

**Conclusion**

Mothers have special needs for knowledge regarding seizure to better health of under-five children. The study revealed that majority of mothers of under-five children belonged to 23-28 years of age group. Mothers of under-five children had inadequate exposure to seizure children. This study gave mothers entry in involvement in case of under-five children and shapes their early transition to motherhood.

**List of Abbreviation**

1. WHO- World Health Organization
2. AAP- American Academy of Paediatrics
3. SEAR- South East Asia Region
4. IPD- In Patient Department
5. PWS- Person With Seizure
6. ILAE- International League Against Epilepsy
7. P- Level of Significance

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