

A Study to Assess the Knowledge Regarding Covid-19 and it's Prevention Among Adolescent Girls in Selected Colleges, Hyderabad

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Abstract

A non-experimental descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding covid-19 and it's prevention among adolescent girls in selected colleges, Hyderabad. The objectives for the study are to assess the knowledge about covid-19 among adolescents, to assess the knowledge about its prevention among adolescents. A structured questionnaire was used to collect the data from the adolescent girls to assess the knowledge. Simple random sampling technique was used for the selection of sample. Total sample size for the study was 60. The results of the study is Majority of the adolescents 41 were having average knowledge, whereas 18 demonstrated above average knowledge and 1 had below average knowledge.

Keywords: Prevention among adolescent; Simple random; Majority of the adolescents.

INTRODUCTION

In December 2019, a pathogenic human coronavirus SARS- CoV-2, coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), was recognized and has caused serious illness and numerous deaths. The ultimate scope and effect of this outbreak are unclear at present as the situation is rapidly evolving. The certain mortality rate, and it was classified as a class B infectious disease and managed as a class A infectious disease in China in January 2020. China has taken firm infection control measures, isolating the exposed and suspected cases according to international standards, constantly updating the diagnosis and treatment process, and carrying out public education.

By the end of January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a public health emergency of international concern and called for the collaborative effort of all countries, to prevent its rapid spread. Later, the WHO declared COVID-19 a "global pandemic". Thousands of people emigrated out of major Indian cities, as they became jobless after the lockdown. Following the lockdown, India's electricity demand fell down to a five-month low on 28 March. The lockdown broke the supply chain of narcotics in Punjab. Many states were keen on opening up liquor shops during the lockdown which was finally allowed in the 3rd phase beginning on May 4. Reports of a surge in illicit liquor sales and most importantly, drying up of revenue from liquor sale was the main stimulation.

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NEED FOR THE STUDY

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered corona virus. According to World Health Organization (WHO), viral disease continues to emerge and represent a serious issue to public health. In the last 20 years,

several viral epidemics such as the severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus (SARS-CoV) from 2002-2003, and H1N1 influenza in 2009, have been recorded. Most recently, the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) was first identified in Saudi Arabia in 2012. According to WHO (on 25th July 2020) there are 15.7 million cases were reported in whole over the world. And daily nearly 3 lakh cases are reporting. In that 9.05 million are recovered and 4.5 lakh deaths were occurred. Daily death rate is approximately 10 thousand. At present scenario, it is very important to educate the adolescents about COVID-19, its transmission and prevention because children are very prone to get affected by COVID-19. Adolescents will be more interested in peer group gathering and games, and will be unable to maintain social distancing and if the elders are restricting the children they may be get misunderstand. So the children especially adolescents must get proper knowledge about COVID-19 and must help them to develop a positive attitude and skills on prevention of COVID-19.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Deblina Roy Sarvodaya Tripathy et al. 2020 conducted a study to assess the knowledge, attitude, anxiety experience, and perceived mental healthcare need among adult Indian population during the COVID-19 pandemic. An online survey was conducted using a semi-structured questionnaire using a non-probability snowball sampling technique. A total of 662 responses were received. The responders had a moderate level of knowledge about the COVID-19 infection and adequate knowledge about its preventive aspects. The attitude towards COVID-19 showed peoples' willingness to follow government guidelines on quarantine and social distancing. The anxiety levels identified in the study were high. More than 80% of the people were preoccupied with the thoughts of COVID-19 and 72% reported the need to use gloves, and sanitizers. In this study, sleep difficulties, paranoia about acquiring COVID-19 infection and distress related social media were reported in 12.5%, 37.8%, and 36.4% participants respectively. The perceived mental healthcare need was seen in more than 80% of participants. There is a need to intensify the awareness and address the mental health issues of people during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Tadesse Tolossa, Daniel Bekele (et al.) (June 2020) Conducted study to assess the prevention knowledge and practices towards the COVID-19 among the residents of Ethiopia. An online cross-

sectional study was conducted among the sample of Ethiopian residents via social platforms of the author's network with the popular media such as Facebook, in Ethiopia from the April 15-22, 2020 and successfully recruited 341 responses. The snowball sampling was employed to recruit the participants. The data were analyzed using STATA version 14. Descriptive statistics were used to summarize the level of knowledge and practices.

Results: The majority of the respondents (80.35%) were male. The overall prevention knowledge of the participants towards the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) was high. About 91.2% of the participant was heard about the novel coronavirus disease and Social Medias' were the main source of the information. About 90% of the participants had a good prevention knowledge of maintaining social distance and frequent hand washing. The practices of the participants towards the COVID-19 prevention were very low. Out of 341 participants, only 61% and 84% of the participants were practicing social distance and frequent hand washing, respectively.

Yudong Shi Juan Wang et. al 2020 study was performed to assess the knowledge and attitudes of medical staff in two Chinese mental health centers during the COVID-19 outbreak. We included 141 psychiatrists and 170 psychiatric nurses in the study. The study found that during the COVID-19 epidemic, 89.51% of the medical staff of the psychiatric hospitals studied had extensive knowledge of COVID-19, and 64.63% of them received the relevant training in hospitals. Furthermore, about 77.17% of participants expressed a willingness to care for psychiatric patients suffering from COVID-19 virus infection. Independent predictors of willingness to care for patients included advanced training and experience of caring for patients with COVID-19. In conclusion, this study suggests that increased attention should be paid to the knowledge and attitudes of medical staff at psychiatric hospitals during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Problem Statement

A Study to Assess the knowledge regarding Covid-19 and it's Prevention among Adolescent Girls In Selected Colleges, Hyderabad.

OBJECTIVES

- To assess the knowledge about covid-19 among adolescents
- To assess the knowledge about its prevention

among adolescents.

Hypothesis

H0: There will be no association between the knowledge with the selected demographic variables.

METHODOLOGY

Research design selected for the present study was non experimental descriptive research design. A structured questionnaire was used to collect the data from the adolescent girls to assess the knowledge. The content validity of the tool was obtained from experts in the field of Medicine and Nursing. Written consent were taken from all the participants. Study protocol was approved by institutional review board.

The pilot study was conducted September 2020 at selected college, Hyderabad. Prior permission from the authorities was obtained. The reliability of the tool was tested by using the split – half method and Karl Pearson's formula and the tool was found to be highly reliable ($r = 0.9$).

The present study was conducted at selected college Hyderabad, during a specified period from 1st December 2020 to 10th December 2020. Prior permission from the authorities was obtained. Simple random sampling technique was used for the selection of sample. Total sample size for the study was 60. The main aim of the model was to assess the knowledge about covid among adolescent girls and integrating research findings in such a way so as to facilitate the generation of testable hypothesis.

RESULTS

Majority of the adolescents 41 were having average knowledge, whereas 18 demonstrated above average knowledge and 1 has below average knowledge. The calculated chi square values of selected demographic variables like residential area, religion, education status, occupation of mother, occupation of father, family income, previous knowledge and source of knowledge on covid-19 and its prevention, attended any awareness program on covid-19, experience of covid-19 are less than the table values at the probability level of 0.05, which shows there was no significant association except age in years. Hence,

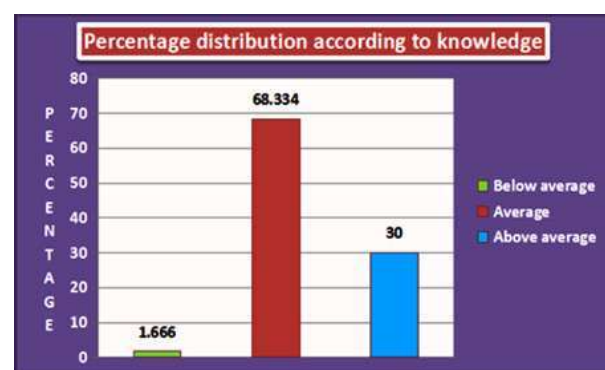
we accept the null hypothesis H0: there will be no association between the knowledge with the selected demographic variables.

Table :1 Frequency and percentage of adolescents according to demographic variables

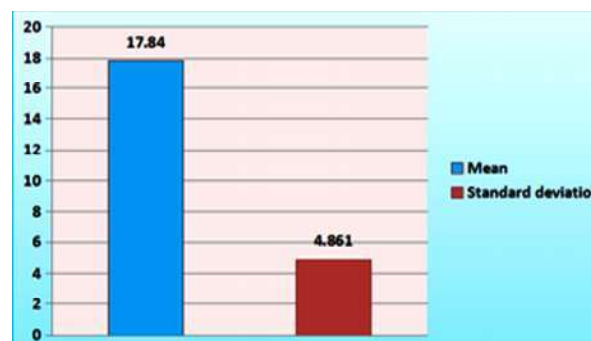
Age in years	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
15 years	2	3.33
16 years	17	28.33
17 years	25	41.67
18 years	16	26.67
Area		
Urban	38	63.34
Sub Urban	12	20
Rural	10	16.66
Religion		
Hindu	13	22
Muslim	8	13
Christian	39	65
Educational Status		
10th standard	1	1.67
Inter 1 yr	8	13.33
Inter 2nd yr	51	85
Family Income		
10,000-20,000	51	85
20,000-30,000	5	8.34
30,000-40,000	3	5
>40,000	1	1.66
Occupation of Mother		
Private employee	20	33.34
Govt.employee	-	-
Business	-	-
Unemployed	39	65
Health care worker	1	1.66
Occupation of Father		
Private employee	37	61.67
Govt. employee	-	-
Business	7	11.67
Unemployed	15	25
Health care employee	1	1.66
Previous knowledge on Covid-19 and its Prevention		
Yes	48	80
No	12	20
Source of knowledge About Covid-19 and its Prevention		
Social media	48	80
Health care professional	2	3.34
Publications	8	13.33
Others	2	3.33

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of adolescents according to the grading of their knowledge scores.

Knowledge score	Frequency(n)	Percentage (%)
Below average	01	1.666
Average	41	68.334
Above average	18	30
Total	60	100

**Table 3:** Over all mean and standard deviation of knowledge adolescents regarding covid-19 and its prevention.

Variables	Mean	Standard deviation
Knowledge	17.84	4.861

**Table 4:** Chi square values of knowledge scores of adolescents with their selected demographic variables.

Demographic variables	Chi-square value	Degree of Freedom	Table value	Level of significance	Significance
Age	25.3	6	12.59	0.05	S
Residential area	3.35	4	9.48	0.05	NS
Religion	1.9071	6	12.59	0.05	NS
Education status	0.7956	4	9.48	0.05	NS
Family income	6.354	6	12.59	0.05	NS
Occupation of mother	1.0074	8	15.50	0.05	NS
Occupation of father	6.75	8	15.50	0.05	NS
Previous knowledge about covid-19	4.4	2	5.99	0.05	NS
Source of knowledge about covid-19	6.55	6	12.59	0.05	NS

NS: Not Significant S: Significant

DISCUSSION

The current study examined the knowledge of adolescents with structured questionnaire. The study revealed that majority of the adolescents 41 were having average knowledge, whereas 18 demonstrated above average knowledge and 1 has below average knowledge. A similar study was conducted by *Deblina Roy Sarvodaya Tripathy et. al. 2020* conducted a study to assess the knowledge, attitude, anxiety experience, and perceived mental healthcare need among adult Indian population during the COVID-19 pandemic. An online survey was conducted using a semi-structured questionnaire using a non-probability snowball sampling technique. A total of 662 responses were received. The responders had a moderate level

of knowledge about the COVID-19 infection and adequate knowledge about its preventive aspects.

IMPLICATIONS

In Nursing Practice

- Nursing professionals working in the hospitals can understand the importance of prevention of covid-19 by practicing the preventive measures
- Nurses working in the hospitals needs to practice preventive measures, which will help in prevention of covid-19
- Staff nurses needs to enhance their knowledge and skills on prevention of covid-19 through

continuous in – service education

In Nursing Education:

- Nursing education is an integral part of nursing practice, which helps in updating the knowledge of nursing personnel
- Ongoing education should be provided to nursing personnel regarding covid-19 and its prevention

Nursing Administration:

- With technological advances and ever growing challenges in nursing, the nurse administrators have responsibility to provide the nurses with adequate educational opportunities
- Nursing administrators should plan and organize in-service education programmes for staff nurses on Covid-19 preventive measures
- Nursing administrators should prepare nurses by providing in depth knowledge regarding Covid-19 and its prevention
- Nursing administrators should guide and motivate staff nurses in participating certain surveillance activities so that nursing quality will improve further

In Nursing Research:

- The study will be valuable reference for further researches.
- The study will motivate the beginning researchers to conduct similar study on large scale basis and on comparative basis.
- Nurse researchers can develop appropriate health education tools for educating staff nurses on Covid-19 and its prevention.

Limitations

Investigator could experience difficulties in conducting written examination by using a structured questionnaire. Adolescents were not interested in spending time after their study hours. It was time consuming to gather adolescents after their study hours.

CONCLUSION

Present study was attempted to assess the knowledge about covid-19 and its prevention among adolescent girls in selected colleges, Hyderabad and following conclusions were drawn

on the bases of the findings of the study. Majority of the adolescents 41 were having average knowledge, whereas 18 demonstrated above average knowledge and 1 has below average knowledge. On the whole carrying out the present study was an enriching experience to the investigator. The constant encouragement and guidance at each step, motivation and co-operation of the guide as well as the interest and co-operation of the participants in the study, contributed to the fruitful completion of the study.

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