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An Exploratory Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude of Mothers Regarding The immunization Status of Their Children Under Five years of Age in Selected Area of Ludhiana, Punjab

Baljinder Kaur[1,*]

Abstract

Children under five years of age are vulnerable to get various diseases which may lead to high mortality rate in children below five. One of the most effective and economical public health strategies against disease is immunization. The current study sought to determine mothers' knowledge and attitudes about immunizations for their children under five. Specifically, the study's objectives were to: 1. Determine mothers' knowledge and attitudes about immunizations for their children under five in a chosen area of Ludhiana, Punjab. 2. To ascertain the association between mothers' attitudes and knowledge about their children's immunization status if they are younger than five years old. 3. To determine how mothers' knowledge of their children's immunization status before the age of five relates to certain variables such the mother's age, education, occupation, religion, and type of with selected variables such as mother's age, mother's education, mother's occupation, religion, type of family, number of children, monthly family income and mass media exposure. 5. To prepare pamphlets on immunization schedule.

Keywords:

INTRODUCTION

If you want India to be strong and always prepared to face new problems, you must take care of its children, who are the wealth of the future (Nehru Jawahar Lal) Indeed, immunizing children against the main diseases that cause morbidity and mortality in children is a worthy goal [1,2,3]. That being said, completing the work is not simple. The logistical challenge of immunizing every kid is immense in developing nations such as India, where regional diversity and large target populations necessitate different vaccination schedules. But thanks to the universal immunization program, the health sector in this nation is achieving remarkable strides, potentially saving millions of lives.

***Author for Correspondence**
Baljinder Kaur
E-mail: preetbaljinder2002@gmail.com

[1]Principal, Sachkhand College of Nursing Abohar, Punjab, India

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With 667 cases from 27 states reported to the CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), 2014 saw a record number of measles cases in the US—the highest number since the virus was declared eradicated in the country in 2000. 188 cases of measles were recorded from 24 states and one district in Colombia in 2015. 2016 saw 70 cases of measles reported from 16 states.

In 2011, children below five year of age contributed to 699.1 million population in the world with 158.8 million contributing to the population of India [3]. According to WHO data, the following

number of infants under a year old did not receive the DPT3 vaccine globally: 21.8 million in 2013 compared to 22.8 million in 2012[4,5,6,7].

METHODOLOGY

The term methodology refers to the overall structure used to collect accurate and trustworthy data for research purposes. sample and method of sampling, Criteria for inclusion and exclusion, Choice and creation of instruments a description of the instrument Legitimacy of the

Research of design: -The comprehensive strategy that outlined the process and methodology for gathering and evaluating the data required for a research study was known as the research design.

The research design used in the study was nonexperimental research design to assess the knowledge and attitude of the mothers of the children under 5 years of age regarding immunization status in selected area Ludhiana, Punjab.

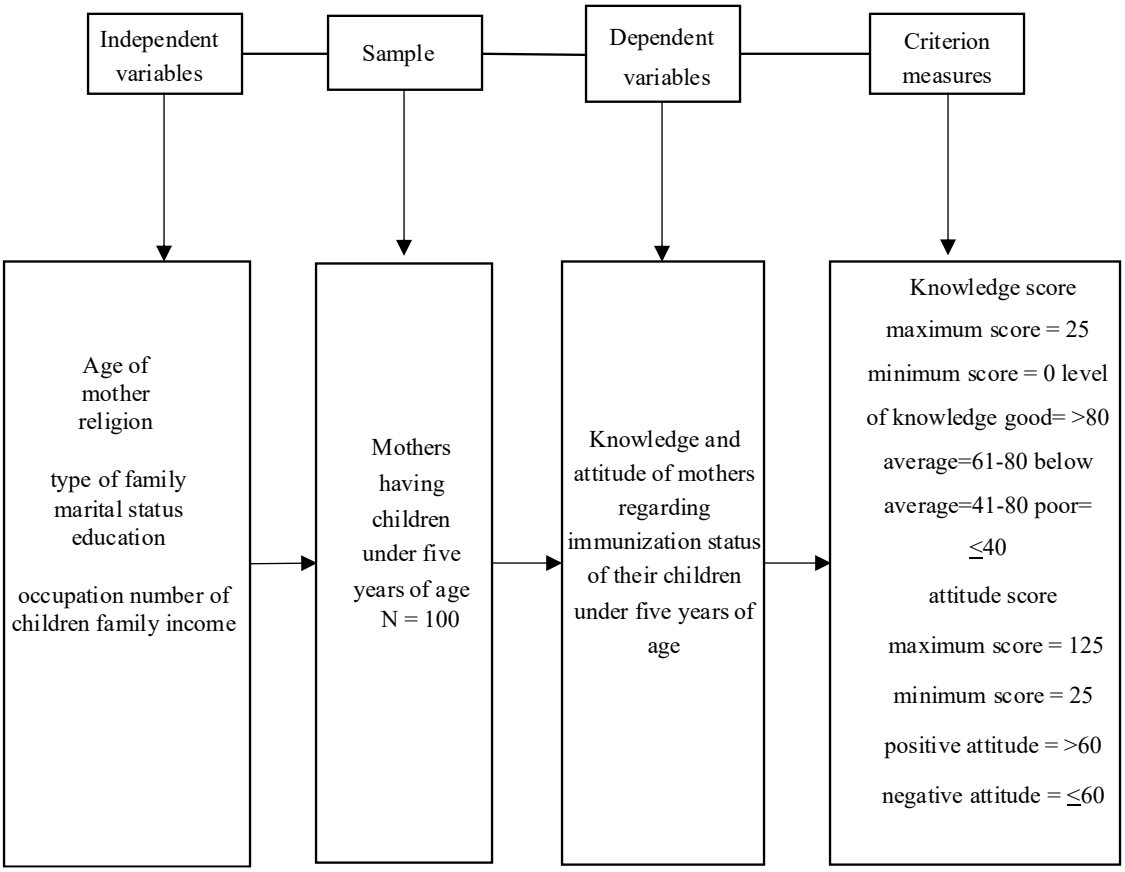

Figure 2. Research design.

Interpreting and Examination. The analysis and interpretations were completed in compliance with the study's established objectives [8,9].

The data was obtained from 100 mothers who have children under five years in selected area of Ludhiana, Punjab [10].

The analysis of data was done in accordance with the objective of the study. The data was analyzed by using description and inferential statistics through mean, mean percentage, standard deviation, ANOVA test, Correlation Coefficient.

Objective 1: To assess the knowledge and attitude of mothers regarding the immunizations status of their children under five years of age.

Table 2. Frequency and percentage distribution of Mothers having children under the Age of Five

N=100

Level of knowledge		**Knowledge score**
	n	%
Good	17	17%
Average	26	26%
Below average	25	25%
Poor	32	32%

Maximum Score = 25
Minimum Score = 0

Objective 2: to ascertain the association between mothers' attitudes and knowledge about their children's immunization status if they are less than five.

Table 4. shows how mothers' attitudes and knowledge about their children's immunization status under five years old relate to each other.

N=100

	Knowledge and attitude score		
Relationship	**Maximum score**	**Mean**	**r**
Knowledge	25	15.08	0.08
Attitude	125	73.08	

Table 4 shows the relationship value between knowledge score and attitude score was 0.08. It depicts that there was positive relationship between knowledge and attitude of mothers regarding immunization status.

Thus, it was concluded that knowledge of mothers increases regarding immunization of their children under five years of age, they develop desirable attitude. Similarly objective wise relationship has been established.

DISCUSSION

Major Findings

This chapter relates to the findings of the studies The present study's findings have been addressed in light of the goals of the investigation. As per the first objective, which is to evaluate mothers' knowledge about their children's immunization status if they are less than five.

This study's primary goal is to determine how much information mothers of young infants know about vaccinations.

The highest number, 32 (32%) of mothers had poor knowledge regarding immunization. Hence it was concluded that mothers had lack of knowledge which was similar to the findings of Sharma Rahul et al 2007 who stated that maximum number of mothers lack in knowledge regarding immunization [11,12,13,14].

Remaining mothers had 26 (26%) average knowledge and 25 (25%) below average knowledge [15]. Only 17 (17%) of mothers had good knowledge regarding immunization.

Objective 2 states that mothers' attitudes toward their children under the age of five's immunization [16,17]. status are to be assessed. The majority of mothers (58%) had favorable opinions about vaccinations.

According to objective 3: To find out the relationship between the Knowledge and attitude of mother's regarding the Immunization status of their children under 5 years of age There was a moderate correlation between the Knowledge and Attitude as the correlation coefficient ''r'' was between 0.7 and 0.9 which is 0.8. This relates to a positive correlation [18,19,20].

According to objective 4: To find out the relationship of mother's knowledge regarding the immunization status of their children under 5 years of age with selected variables such as mother's age, mother's education, mother's occupation, religion, type of family, number of children, monthly family income and marital status [21,22].

Other's age: Highest mean knowledge score was 15.5 and was scored by the 21-25 years age group, followed by 15.13 score by above 35 years age, 14.6 score by 26-30 years age and least score was 15.41 by 31-35 age group [23,24,25].

Mother's education: Highest mean knowledge score 15.13 was scored by the primary school educated, followed by 15.1 by secondary and above, 15.02 by illiterate and least score was 14.4 by matriculation educated mothers [26].

Mother's occupation: Maximum mean knowledge score 15.6 was scored by the private employed, followed by 14.78 by govt. employed, 14.73 by self-employed and the least score was 14.54 by homemakers [27].

Mother's religion: Maximum mean knowledge score 15.33 was scored by the Sikh religion, followed by 5 score by Christian religion and the least score was 14.4 by Hindu religion [28].

Type of family: More mean knowledge score was 15.1 scored by nuclear family and the least score was 14.72 for joint family [29].

Number of children: Maximum mean knowledge score 15.33 was scored by the mothers having 2 children under age 5, followed by 15.02 by 3 and above children group and the least score was 14.4 by one child group [30].

Monthly family Income: Maximum mean knowledge score 15.5 was scored by the above Rs. 5000/- income group, followed by 15.13 by below Rs. 3000/- income group, 14.6 by Rs. 4001-5000/- group and the least score was 14.41 by Rs. 3001-4000 income group [31].

Marital status: Highest mean knowledge score 15.13 was scored by the divorced group, followed by 15.1 by widow group, 15.02 by married group and the least score was 14.4 by separated group [32].

Consequences The study's conclusions have various ramifications, some of which are covered here. To evaluate mothers' attitudes and knowledge about their children's immunization status, the following topics were covered:

1. Nursing education
2. Management of nursing
3. Practice of nursing
4. Research on nursing

Nursing education: Education is key for development of excellent nursing practice. It is difficult for nursing staff to deliver high-quality, standard nursing care. The only way to meet it is to stay up to date on the latest developments in constantly evolving advanced health technology [33,34,35].

Nursing curriculum needs to have specific education regarding immunization schedule to prevent infant morbidity and mortality rate. This educational package for nurses should be comprehensive and should include aspects to increase the Knowledge of the mothers by providing proper guidance for immunization. Nursing personnel should render services according to changing needs of society. Nursing Curriculum should lay stress on various aspect on education of mothers regarding Immunization [36,37].

Nursing services: Nursing professionals should render services according to the changing needs of the society. The high incidence of infant morbidity and mortality rates stresses the need that nurses should educate mothers about the benefits of Immunization. Proper Immunization of the child saves the child from the diseases and malformation. Motivation of the mothers through medical professionals can save the children of the country and future of our country.

Nursing administration: A complicated subject with a fast expanding body of knowledge, nursing is a product of the information explosion and technological advancements of this day. In order to prepare new nurses to serve the community, nursing administration should anticipate current needs.

Nursing Administration at institutional level should evaluate knowledge of mothers regarding immunization of the children. Administrative support should be provided for conducting programmes for education on topic of immunization. The nurses should be motivated to attend such teaching programmes to enhance their knowledge.

Nursing research: Findings of this study will provide the baseline data about the knowledge of mothers regarding Immunization status of their children. The nurse will know about their knowledge regarding Immunization of the children so that they conduct the further research in this area. Studies done in this regard will improve the quality of nursing care and also establish the importance of nurses in health care delivery system [38,39,40].

FINAL VERDICT

The data analysis result led to the following important conclusions being drawn: About the immunization status of their children under five, 17% of mothers have a good degree of knowledge. Of the mothers, 26% are well-informed about the immunization status of their children under five. Of the mothers who have children under five, 25% are well-informed of their children's immunization status. Of the mothers, 29% are well-informed about the immunization status of their children under five.

SUGGESTIONS

The Study's Findings Led to The Following Recommendations Being Made

1. To confirm and extrapolate the study's conclusions, a sizable sample can be used for replication.
2. Similar study can be conducted on different setting like community, mother who have the children under five years of age target population nursing students, staff nurses etc.
3. To evaluate mothers' knowledge, attitudes, and practices about their children under five years old's immunization status, a quasi-experimental study may be carried out. 4. To evaluate mothers' knowledge, attitudes, and practices about their children under five years old's immunization status, an exploratory study may be conducted. 5. To evaluate mothers' attitudes and knowledge about their children under five's immunization status, a comparative study can be carried out.

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