

The Knowledge of Primigravida Mothers Regarding Antenatal Care in Selected Rural and Urban Areas

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ABSTRACT: Introduction: In any community, mother and children constitute a priority group. Antenatal care is given to promote, protect and maintain the health during pregnancy. Detection of “high risk” cases and their appropriate management forms an importance strategy in antenatal care.

Objectives: To assess the knowledge of primigravida mothers regarding antenatal care in rural and urban areas, to compare the knowledge of rural and urban primigravida mothers, to determine the association between the level of knowledge in rural and urban primigravida mothers with selected demographic variables, to develop an information guide sheet regarding antenatal care.

Methodology: Research design was descriptive. Setting was kadusonnaphalli PHC for rural and Narayanapuram PHC for urban area. Sample was 50 primigravida mothers in each rural and urban areas were selected by convenient sampling technique. Descriptive approach was adopted to collect a data. Self prepared a structured interview questionnaire was prepared until administered to 50 primigravida mothers of rural and urban areas based on convenient sampling technique was employed for the sample selection.

Result: Majority of 82% primigravida mothers had inadequate knowledge and 18% had moderately adequate knowledge in rural area. In urban area 54% had moderately adequate knowledge and only 10% had adequate knowledge of antenatal care. There is no significant association found between knowledge of primigravida mothers with selected demographic variable. The overall aspects mean knowledge score was 40% with standard deviation 12.78 in rural and in urban 51.90% with standard deviation 14.14. Highest mean knowledge score was found on general information 48% in rural and 61.50% in urban regarding antenatal care.

KEY WORDS: Primigravida, Antenatal, foetus, surveillance, anaemia, mortality.

I. INTRODUCTION

The mother and child must be considered as one unit it is because the foetus is part of the mother. Pregnancy and childbirth are the physiological process in the life of women. **Padam singh(2000)** The period of development of foetus within mother is about 280 days. **K.Park(2005)**, revealed that any given community, mothers and children constitute a priority group. The risk is connected with child bearing in case of women, growth and development in case of children. **Nagaraj(1999)** was conducted the study for associated with risk of sickness or death of mother, child or both. **WHO(2005)** estimates, detection of high risk cases and their appropriate management from an important strategy in antenatal care. Since India has high percentage of maternal mortality rate. **Muthu(2006)** detection of high risk cases (elderly aged mothers, short statured primi, malpresentation, anaemia, placenta previa, congenital anomalies etc.) and their appropriate management form an important strategy in antenatal care. Since India has high percentage of maternal mortality rate.

International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 3, Issue 11, November 2014

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

We have chosen 50 in rural and 50 in urban area and antenatal mothers, research design used for the study is descriptive design. Demographic variables such as age, religion, type of family, educational status, occupation, income, place of residence, gestational weeks and source of health information which influence the primigravida mother’s knowledge regarding antenatal care.

Result and discussion: The present study was conducted to assess the knowledge of primigravida mothers regarding antenatal care in selected rural and urban areas. descriptive approach was considered appropriate to discuss knowledge on antenatal care. The sample was selected by using convenient sampling technique. The sample comprises of 100 primigravida mothers both from each rural and urban area. Among the rural mothers 54(54%) were in the age group of 21-25 years. Regarding the religion majority of 60 (60%) were Hindus in rural and 48(48%) were in urban. Around 44 (44%) in rural and 40 (40%) in urban were educated upto primary school. Occupation majority of 52 (52%) in rural and 60(60%) in urban were house wives. primigravida mothers 40 (40%) in rural and 36 (36%) in urban were in 13 to 24 gestational weeks. With regard to the source of information 36 (36%) mothers in rural getting from mass media and 34 (34%) in urban getting information from relatives and friends minimum percentage of 10 (10%) in rural and 12(12%) in urban received the knowledge from health personnel. The finding is supported by the study revealed that there is a significant association between education ,occupation and level of knowledge. **cweik.d(2004)**

Table1
Level of knowledge about various aspect of antenatal care in rural primigravida mothers.

Aspect of Knowledge	Level of Knowledge					
	Inadequate		Moderately adequate		Adequate	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
General Information	40	40	34	34	26	26
Antenatal checkup	46	46	48	48	6	6
Diet	38	38	46	46	16	16
Hygienic health practice & exercise	44	44	40	40	16	16
Preventive Aspect	64	64	24	24	12	12
Overall	82	82	18	18	---	---

A maximum of 40 (40%) primigravida mothers had inadequate knowledge on general information, 48 (48%) had moderately adequate knowledge on antenatal checkup, 64 (64%) had inadequate knowledge about preventive aspect. Overall knowledge of primigravida mothers regarding antenatal care 82 (82%) in rural is found to be inadequate.

Table2 **Distribution of level of knowledge on various aspect of Antenatal cares among primigravida mothers in urban area.**

Aspect of Knowledge	Level of Knowledge					
	Inadequate		Moderately adequate		Adequate	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
General Information	16	16	38	38	46	46
Antenatal checkup	22	22	54	54	24	24
Diet	32	32	50	50	18	18
Hygienic health practice & exercise	26	26	28	28	46	46
Preventive Aspect	44	44	28	28	28	28
Overall	36	36	54	54	10	10

International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

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Table shows the distribution of level of knowledge about various aspect of antenatal care in urban primigravida mothers. A maximum of 46(46%) adequate knowledge on general information, 54(54%) had moderately adequate knowledge about antenatal checkup, 50 (50%) had moderately adequate knowledge about diet during pregnancy, 46(46%) had adequate knowledge about hygienic practice and exercise and 44 (44%) had inadequate knowledge about preventive aspect. Overall knowledge of primigravida mothers regarding antenatal care 54 (54%) in urban had moderately adequate knowledge.

Table3 Comparison of Mean knowledge on various aspects of antenatal care among primigravida mothers in Rural & Urban area

Various Aspect of Antenatal care	Rural	Urban	p-Value	t Value
	Mean ± S.D	Mean ± S.D		
General information	48.0 ±27.59	61.50 ±25.36	p<0.01 (S)	3.5
Antenatal checkup	43.5 ±19.44	47.00 ±18.65	p=0.361(NS)	1.3
Diet	38.00 ±18.38	51.00 ±20.18	P<0.001(S)	4.8
Hygienic Practice & Exercise	40.00 ±25.75	57.00 ±23.71	p<0.001(S)	4.9
Preventive Aspects	30.50 ±25.75	43.50 ±28.03	p<0.05(S)	3.6
Overall	40.00 ±12.78	51.90 ±14.14	p<0.001(S)	6.6

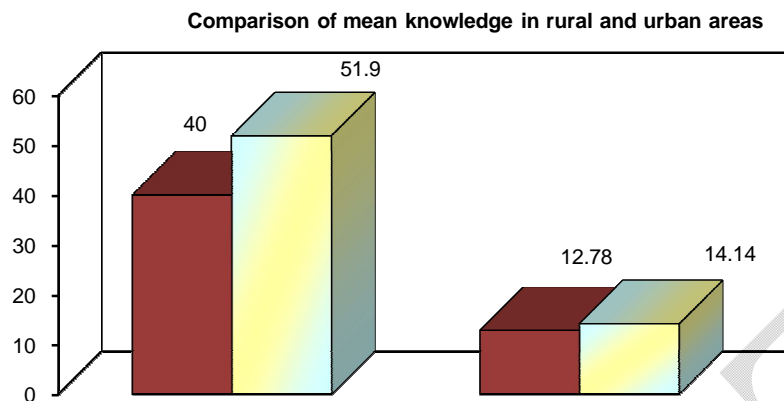
S-significant NS-non significant

Table3 shows the comparison of Mean knowledge on Antenatal care among primigravida mothers in Rural & Urban area. It is evident that there was a highly significant difference in knowledge on antenatal care among rural and urban primigravida mother at P<0.001 level. Comparing with rural primigravida mother, the urban primigravida mother had more knowledge in all aspects of antenatal care.

International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

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Vol. 3, Issue 11, November 2014



III. CONCLUSION

It was found that the primigravida mothers in rural had inadequate knowledge than those in urban, there was a statistical significant association between the level of knowledge and mean knowledge on antenatal care among primigravida mothers in rural and urban. Primigravida mothers may improve their knowledge and getting information guide sheet regarding antenatal care. So all the nurses should be made aware of various information given to primigravida mothers. Thus the study shows that the information guide sheet was effective and improve the knowledge among primigravida mothers.

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