

A Study to Assess the Knowledge of Postnatal Mothers Regarding Prevention of Puerperal Complications in Selected Hospital at Chinakakani, Guntur (Dt), Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract

Background: Puerperal sepsis is a common pregnancy related conditions that could eventually lead to obstetric shock (or) sometimes death. In developing world the puerperal sepsis is the second most cause of maternal mortality.

Aim: To Assess the knowledge of Postnatal Mothers regarding prevention of puerperal complications and to find the association between the knowledge with their demographic variables.

Materials and Method: A descriptive study was done at NRI general hospital, Chinakakani, Guntur, AP. A total of 100 postnatal mothers were select by non-probability convenient sampling. Data was collected by using a structured questionnaire.

Results: Out of 100 participants 36(36%) has inadequate knowledge 13(13%) has moderate 51 (51%) has adequate knowledge. Significant association ($\chi^2=14.77$) was found between the knowledge of the postnatal mothers on prevention of puerperal sepsis with their religion

Conclusion: Majority of women had poor level of knowledge regarding puerperal complication, maximum number of women's are uncertain regarding puerperal infection. Health education programs on prevention of puerperal complication can improve the knowledge of postnatal and aid the same by decrease the incidence of puerperal complications.

Keywords: Knowledge, Prevention, Puerperal complications, Postnatal Mothers.

Introduction

Puerperal complications include many of those encountered during pregnancy but those are some that are more common at this time. Typical of these is puerperal pelvis infection a well-known killer of postpartum women¹.

According to World Health Organization (WHO), puerperal sepsis is defined as infection of the genital tract occurring at labour or within 42 days of the postpartum period. The puerperal sepsis/pyrexia presents commonly with fever and other symptoms like pelvic pain, foul smelling vaginal discharge and delayed reduction of the uterine size. World literature search revealed a Nigeria study report that puerperal sepsis is second leading causes of death accounting for 26.3% of maternal deaths, while another WHO report estimated 358000 maternal deaths yearly occurring due to child birth problems and out of

these up to 15% are associated with puerperal sepsis².

Puerperium is the period of adjustment after child birth during which the mother's reproductive system returns to its normal pre-pregnant state triggered by a sharp drop in the levels of oestrogen and progesterone produced by the placenta during pregnancy. The uterus shrinks back to its normal size and resumes its pre-birth position by the sixth week.

Even though there is a decline in maternal mortality or morbidity case compared in olden times, still there is incidence. According to WHO maternal mortality is currently estimated to be 529000 deaths per years, a global ration of 400 maternal deaths per 100000 live births. Between 11-17 percent of maternal deaths happen during child birth itself. (WHO)³.

Comparison of MMR (Maternal Deaths 1,00,000 Live Births) Among Countries In

Countries	MMR in 2005	MMR in 2019
World	720	660
Asia	310	290
India	420	360
United States	13	8
Uae	37	33

Review of Literature

V. Indra conducted a study to assess the knowledge and practice of postnatal mothers on prevention of puerperal sepsis and the results revealed that 9% had inadequate knowledge, 90% has moderate knowledge and 1% had adequate knowledge.⁴

Lalitha.K conducted a descriptive study to assess the knowledge and practice of postnatal mothers on prevention of puerperal infections and the results revealed that the overall mean percentage of the knowledge score was 52%.⁵

Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge of postnatal mothers on prevention of puerperal complications.
2. To find the association of knowledge of postnatal mothers on prevention of puerperal complications with the selected demographic variables.

Hypothesis

H1: There will be significant relationship between knowledge of postnatal mothers. regarding puerperal complications with their demographic variables.

Assumptions

This study assumes that, Postnatal mothers have knowledge regarding prevention of puerperal complication.

Variables of the Study

The variables in the present study are age education, Religion, parity, source of information .

Delimitations

The study was delimited to postnatal mothers admitted in NRI General Hospital, Guntur and those willing to participate in the study.

Conceptual Frame Work

The conceptual frame work for the study is adopted from General system theory which was formed in 1920’s by Ludwig Von Bertalanffy a biologist from Vienna.

This model contains the following components:

1. Integrated self of defined concepts.
2. Existence and relational statements that present a view of phenomenon.

S. No.	Variable	χ^2	Table value	Df
1.	Age	4.71 NS	12.59	6
2.	Education	13.38*	12.59	6
3.	Religion	14.77*	12.59	6
4.	Parity	6.1 NS	12.59	6
5.	Source of information	1.83NS	12.59	6

Methodology

Research Design: The research approach for this study is a quantitative approach. The research design selected for this study was descriptive survey design.

Setting of the study: The study was conducted in NRI general hospital, Guntur. The setting was chosen a basis of investigation feasibility in terms of adequate sample.

Population: The population for the present study are the postnatal mothers admitted in NRI general hospital, Guntur, A.P.

Sample size: Sample size for the present study is 100 postnatal mothers who are admitted in NRI General Hospital, Guntur, AP.

Tool: The structured questionnaire was developed with the help of literature and consultation with experts. It consisted of two sections.

Section-1: Consist of socio demographic data.

Section-2: Consists of 30 knowledge questionnaire on selected puerperal complications.

Sampling technique: In this present study non probability convenient sampling technique was used.

Procedure for data collection: The subjects were informed about the purpose of the study. Informed consent was taken. All the subjects answered the knowledge questionnaire.

Findings of the Study

Table 1: Frequency And Percentage Distribution of the Knowledge Scores

N=100

Knowledge	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	Mean	SD
Inadequate Knowledge 0-15%	36	36	20.5	8.13
Moderate Knowledge 16-22%	13	13		
Adequate Knowledge 23-30%	51	51		

Table 2: Chi square value of Knowledge Scores

S. No.	Variable	χ^2	Table Value	Df
1	Age	4.71 NS	12.59	6
2	Education	13.38*	12.59	6
3	Religion	14.77*	12.59	6
4	Parity	6.1 NS	12.59	6
5	Source of information	1.83NS	12.59	6

NS= Not Significant at 0.0 5% level of significance

*= Significant at 0.0 5% level of significance

Table 3: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables

S. No.	Demographic Variables	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
1.	Age		
	a. <below 20 years	13	13
	b. 21-25 years	36	36
	c. 26-30 years	40	40
	d. 31years & above	11	11
2.	Religion		
	a. Hindu	52	52
	b. Christian	25	25
	c. Muslim	12	12
	d. Others	11	11
3.	Education		
	a. Know to read and write	23	23
	b. 1 st to 10 th standard	24	24
	c. Intermediate	30	30
	d. Graduation and above	13	13
4.	Parity		
	a. 1 st delivery	22	22
	b. 2 nd delivery	36	36
	c. 3 rd delivery	32	32
	d. 4 th delivery	10	10

Cont... Table 3: Frequency and percentage...

Source of Information			
5.	a. TV	22	22
	b. News paper	26	26
	c. Health care personnel	36	36
	d. Others specify	16	16

The data presented in the table 3 narrates that with regard to Age 13% of the postnatal mothers are in the age group of <20 years age, 36% belongs to 21-25 years 40% belongs to 26-30 years and 11 % of them were belong to the age group of 31 years & above age.

With respect to religion 52 (52%) postnatal mothers Hindus, 25(25%) postnatal mothers are christians, 12(12%) postnatal mothers are Muslims and only few 11 (11%) postnatal mothers were belongs to other religion.

With respect to education qualification 23 (23%) postnatal mothers know how to read and not write, 24 (24%) are between 1 to 10th standard, 30 (30%) studied upto intermediate and 13(13%) of them had graduation and above.

With respect to parity 22 (22%) Postnatal mothers 1 delivery, 36(36%) of the Postnatal mothers had 2 deliveries, 32(32%) had 3 deliveries and 10(10%) had 4 deliveries.

With respect to source of information most of the Postnatal mothers 22 (22%) had knowledge through Television, 36 (36%) of postnatal mothers had knowledge through health personnel, 26 (26%) of postnatal mothers had knowledge through news paper and only few adults 16 (16%) of them had knowledge through other.

Discussion

Out of 100 postnatal mothers 36 (36%) postnatal mothers have inadequate knowledge 13 (13%) postnatal mothers have moderate knowledge 51 (51%) postnatal mothers have adequate knowledge.

This is supported by the study conducted by Shirin Sultana, et al who reported that only 39.3% of the respondents had sufficient knowledge regarding prevention of puerperal sepsis.⁶

There was significant association ($\chi^2=14.77$) between the knowledge of the postnatal mothers on prevention of puerperal complications with their religion.

Conclusion

Majority (36%) of women had poor level of knowledge regarding puerperal complication, very few (13%) of women had moderate knowledge. Minimum (51%) of women are uncertain regarding puerperal infections.

Health education programs on prevention of puerperal complication can improve the knowledge of postnatal and aid the same by decrease the incidence of puerperal complications.

Recommendations

Based on the finding the following recommendations are proposed for future research:

- * A comparative study may be under taken in all types of health care setting.
- * A similar study may be under taken in all types of health care setting
- * A similar study can be carried out as an experimental study.
- * A study can be conducted on a large sample.

Sources of Funding: Self

Conflicts of Interest: Nil

Ethical Clearance: Taken from the institutional ethical committee.

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