

A Descriptive Study to Assess the Level of Knowledge Regarding Adverse Effects of Inhalant Substance Abuse Among the Adolescence in Selected Schools at Perinthalmanna

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ABSTRACT

The study conducted to assess the level of knowledge regarding the adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse among adolescents in selected schools of Perinthalmanna with a view to develop an awareness video. The objectives are to assess the knowledge of adolescents regarding adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse, to determine the association between the level of knowledge regarding adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse and selected demographic variables, to develop an awareness video regarding the adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse. The study design was non-experimental descriptive survey design. The population in the study were adolescence between age group of 10-15 years studying in Tharakan Higher Secondary School in Perinthalmanna, Malappuram. Convenient sampling technique is used for selecting, samples (N=500). A semi structured questionnaire regarding inhalant substance abuse. The data obtained were analyzed based on the objectives and hypothesis using descriptive and inferential statistics. The study findings reveals that there is an association between the knowledge of adolescence regarding adverse inhalant substance abuse and the selected demographic variables such as age, religion and education of father and mother.

Keywords: Adverse effects, Inhalant substance abuse, Adolescence

INTRODUCTION

“Adolescence, derived from the Latin word “adolescence” meaning “to grow up” is a critical developmental period.¹ Adolescence is the period of transition between childhood and adulthood. Inhalants are chemicals found in certain household and workplace products that produce chemical vapors. These vapors can be inhaled to induce mind-altering effects. Inhaled substances are rapidly absorbed into the brain to produce a quick high. Chronic abuse of inhalants can result in irreversible side effects, such as coma and even death.⁴ According to the national institute on drug abuse these are the four general categories of inhalants that are volatile solvents, it includes liquid that vaporize at room temperature.

NEEDS AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

A study conducted on prevalence and pattern of substance abuse among street children and adolescence in Andhra Pradesh, India was observed using a prospective study, carried for six months in a total of 603 street children and adolescence. More prevalence observed among the age group 11 to 14 and dropped out of school. fluid and glue's are generally used by them as inhalants. The source of money was from working in smalltime jobs, begging. Influence of peer pressure acted as the major factors of influence for drug abuse According to the study the prevalence of substance abuse was high among the age group between 12-14 years (48%), followed by 9-11 years (40%). Initiation of substance abuse by majority of the children (52.10) was influenced by their friends. Street children (52.8%) are well aware of the consequences including effect on health.¹⁰

By considering all these study reports we have identified that the rate of abuses are increasing day by day, the abuses are affected with personal and social issues. These problems directly contribute to the growth of the nation, our next generation human resources are detained by the harmful effects of drugs. So it is very important to make the next generation aware about the consequences of drug abuse. Hence we are choosing this topic as our research study.

Population

Target population is adolescence within age group 10-15 years

Samples

Sample comprise of adolescence within the age group 10-15 years in the selected schools of Perinthalmanna

Sample size

In this study, samples were the adolescence between the age group of 10-15 years studying in Tharakan higher secondary school Perinthalmanna. Sample comprise of 500 adolescence.

Sampling technique

Convenient sampling technique is adopted in this study

Setting of the study

Setting is the location and condition in which data collection takes place. The study was conducted at Tharakan higher secondary school.

Theoretical frame work

The conceptual frame work for the present study was developed on the basis of Health belief model by Rosenstock and Becker and Maiman (1978). Proponents of the health belief model content that adolescence will gain knowledge regarding adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse.

Criteria for sample selection

Inclusion criteria

The study includes;

Adolescence within the age group 10 – 15 years

Exclusion criteria

- Adolescence who are not able to read and write Malayalam
- Differently able adolescence **Tools or instruments Development or selection of tool**
- The tool was prepared on the basis of the study. The following steps were involved in
- the development of the tool.
- Review of literature
- Books, journals, public
- Articles internet research
- Discussion with nursing experts

Descriptive statistics

Frequency and percentage distribution were used to study the demographic variables of the adolescence such as age, sex, religion, family, area of living, father's education, mother's education, father's occupation, mother's occupation and number of children to determine the knowledge score regarding adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse.

Inferential statistics

Chi square test is used to find out the associations between the demographic variables and the knowledge score.

The results are presented in

Section A: Demographic variables of adolescence.

Section B: Description of knowledge scores.

Section C: Association between the knowledge score and selected demographic variables.

Section A: Demographic variables of adolescence.

- The total number of samples of the study were 500 among that 51.4% belongs to 14-15 years, 47% were belongs to 12-13years and only 1.6% belongs to 10-11 years.
- 52.2% samples are males, 47.8% are females and no transgenders are present.
- Samples based on religion, shows majority of the samples 48.6% belongs to Hindu and Islam, remaining 2.8% belongs to Christian.
- Based on type of family, majority of the samples 68.4% belongs to nuclear family and 25.6% belongs to joint family.
- Distribution based on area of living, shows 48% samples from rural area, 38% belongs to urban area and 14% from semi urban area.
- Education of father, 40.2% have primary education, 39% have secondary education, 20.2% studied degree or post -graduation and rest of them 0.6% are illiterates
- Education of mother, 42.4% have primary education, 31.4% have secondary education, 25.6% studied degree/post -graduation and rest of them 0.6% are illiterates
- Distribution of samples based on father's occupation, it shows that the majority of samples 48.8% are

working in private sector, 43% are coolie, 6% are working in Govt sector and remaining 2.2% are unemployed

- Distribution of samples based on mother’s occupation, it shows that the majority of samples, 66.6% mothers are housewife, 19.6% were working in private sector, 8.8% are coolie, and remaining 5% are government workers.
- Distribution of sample based on monthly income shows that majority of the samples 45.6% are having monthly income in between 5000 -10000, 31.6% are having monthly income greater than 10000 and remaining 22.8% are having income below 5000.
- Samples based on number of children in the family, shows 50.4% family having 3 children and above, 44.2% family having 2 children, 5.45% family have only one Children.

Section B: Description of knowledge scores.

Distribution of samples based on knowledge score on adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse 201(40.2%) had average knowledge, 174(34.8%) had good knowledge, 81(16.2%) had poor knowledge and 44(8.8%) had excellent knowledge.

Section C: Association between the knowledge score and selected demographic variables.

Chi-square value of age ($X^2 = 25.31$, table value 12.592), sex ($X^2 = 6.43$, table value 7.815), Religion ($X^2 = 18.897$, table value 12.592), Type of Family ($X^2 = 2.283$, table value 7.815), Area of living ($X^2 = 11.858$, table value 12.592).. Chi-square value of father’s education ($x^2= 49.715$, table value 16.919), mother’s education($x^2= 27.781$, table value 16.919), father’s occupation ($X^2=11.974$, table value 16.919), mother’s occupation ($x^2= 8.689$, table value 16.919), income ($x^2= 8.151$, table value 12.592), number of children ($x^2= 4.674$, table value 12.592). The finding showed that there is significant association between knowledge score and demographic variables such as age, religion, father’s education and mother’s education.

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES AND LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE

Chi square value shows association between demographic variables and level of knowledge.

Sl.No	Demographic variables	Chi-square value	Degree of freedom	Table value
1	Age in years. a)10-11 b)12-13 c)14-15	25.31	6	*12.592
2	Sex a) Male b) Female	6.43	3	7.815
3	religion a) Hindu b) Christian c) Islam d) others	18.897	6	*12.592

4	Family a) Joint b) Nuclear	2.283	3	7.815
5	Area of living a) Urban b) Rural c) Semi-urban	11.858	6	12.592

**Level of significant at 0.05

Table shows that chi-square value of age ($X^2 = 25.31$, table value 12.592), sex ($X^2 = 6.43$, table value 7.815), Religion ($X^2 = 18.897$, table value 12.592), Type of Family ($X^2 = 2.283$, table value 7.815), Area of living ($X^2 = 11.858$, table value 12.592). It's shows age and religion have association knowledge score of adolescence regarding adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse.

Chi square value shows association between demographic variables and level of knowledge.

Sl.No	Demographic variables	Chi-square value	Degree of freedom	Table value
1	Father's education a) Primary b) Secondary c) Graduate and post graduate d) Illiterate		49.715	9 *16.919
2	Mother's education a) Primary b) Secondary c) Graduate and post graduate d) Illiterate		27.781	9 *16.919
3	Father's occupation a) unemployment b) Coolie c) Private d) Government		11.974	9 16.919
4	Mother's occupation a) House wife b) Coolie c) Private d) Government		8.689	9 16.919
5	Income a) <5000 b) 5000-10000 c) >10000		8.151	6 12.592
6	Number of children a)1			

b)2	4.674	6	12.592
c)3 and above			

*Level of significant at 0.05

Table shows that the chi-square value of father’s education ($x^2= 49.715$, table value 16.919), mother’s education($x^2= 27.781$, table value 16.919), father’s occupation ($X^2=11.974$, table value 16.919), mother’s occupation ($x^2= 8.689$, table value 16.919), income ($x^2= 8.151$, table value 12.592), number of children ($x^2= 4.674$, table value 12.592). This reveals that there is an association for father’s education and mother’s education with knowledge score of adolescence regarding adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse.

Discussion

In the present study, the researchers investigated ‘A descriptive study to assess the level of knowledge regarding the adverse effects of inhalant substance abuse among adolescence (10-15years) and its relation with demographic variables. The researchers found that there was a decreased level of knowledge regarding inhalant substance abuse. Awareness video regarding inhalant abuse and semi structured questions given to adolescence.

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