

A Study to Assess Effectiveness of Educational Intervention on Knowledge Regarding Child Abuse among Parents of School Children at Selected Community Areas at Perinthalmanna

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ABSTRACT

The present study entitled - “ A STUDY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS of EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTION ON KNOWLEDGE REGARDING CHILD ABUSE AMONG PARENTS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN SELECTED COMMUNITY AREAS OF PERINTHALMANNA”

Objectives: Assess pre test and post test level of knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children in both control and experimental group, Evaluate effectiveness of educational intervention on child abuse among parents of school children, Find association between knowledge of parents on child abuse and selected demographic variables. Methodology: Quantitative research approach was used for the study . The study was conducted in 11,12&13 wards of Perinthalmanna municipality using quasi experimental non- equivalent control group pretest-post test design. Data was collected from a total of 60 parents of which 30 were in control and 30 in experimental group by using convenient sampling. Data were collected by using knowledge questionnaire. Data were analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Result: Among 60 samples in pretest, 24(40%) have average level of knowledge, 23(38.33%) have good level of knowledge, 13(21.66%) have poor knowledge and there is no participants in excellent category. In post test, 36(60%) got good level of knowledge, 12(20%) had average knowledge, 9(15%) had poor knowledge and 3 (5%) got excellent knowledge. The educational intervention on child abuse was effective in improving level of knowledge among parents of school children. (t value 5.547 p value 0.0001) And the demographic variables age, gender, marital status, education, job, residence, previous source of knowledge, type of family, religion and number of children

INTRODUCTION

Child abuse can have severe consequences, impacting a child's physical and mental well-being. Physically, it may lead to injuries, developmental issues, and long-term health problems. Psychologically, it can result in emotional trauma, low self-esteem, anxiety, depression, and even contribute to behavioral problems. Long-term consequences may include difficulties in forming healthy relationships, engaging in risky behaviors, and increased vulnerability to mental health disorders. Early intervention and support are crucial to mitigate these effects and promote the child's overall well-being. Neglect may lead to

developmental delays, poor physical health, and emotional issues. Sexual abuse can result in trauma, anxiety, depression, and long-term psychological damage. Both forms of maltreatment can impact a child's ability to form healthy relationships, maintain emotional stability, and hinder their overall quality of life. It is crucial to address and prevent such abuse to protect the well-being of children. If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, consider reaching out to appropriate authorities or support services.

Prevention of children from all forms of abuses is a need of the hour. Several initiatives for prevention of child abuse target mostly parents and caretakers. They are in a better position to make aware and protect their children from becoming victims of different types of abuses. Understanding the effectiveness of such efforts in improving parents' awareness of child abuse is vitally important. In the context of child sexual abuse, primary prevention involves checking the incidents of acts of child sexual abuse by initiating action before a sexual assault happens. Secondary prevention, Responses are done immediately after the occurrence of abuse towards responding to the immediate effects of abuse and prevent additional harm. In tertiary prevention of CSA, long term responses are carried to address the effects he best method to check child abuse and neglect is providing assistance to families for enhancing the skills and resources needed.

Statement Of The Problem

A study to assess effectiveness of educational intervention on knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children at selected community areas at Perinthalmanna.

Objectives Of The Study

- Assess pre-test and post-test level of knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children in both control and experimental group
- Evaluate effectiveness of educational intervention on child abuse among parents of school children
- Find association between knowledge of parents on child abuse and selected demographic variables.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

Assess: It refers to measurement of level of knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children by using knowledge questionnaire.

Knowledge: It refers the awareness about child abuse among parents of school children and it is measured by using structured questionnaire.

Effectiveness: It is the gain in knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children measured as an increase in the knowledge score after educational intervention.

Educational Intervention: It is a systematically organized instructions developed by investigators regarding child abuse with a duration of 40 minutes by using appropriate audiovisual aids. The session will cover meaning of child abuse, types, risk factors & causes, signs & symptoms, consequences, preventive strategies & management, child safety laws

Child Abuse: It refers to an act which cause physical harm, coercing a child into sexual behavior, failure to care for basic needs & exposing to psychological trauma.

Parents Of School Children: Refers to father and mother who is having children between age group of 6-12 years.

HYPOTHESES

H1: The mean post test knowledge score is significantly higher than mean pretest knowledge score in experimental group.

H2: There is a significant association between knowledge on child abuse among parents of school children with selected demographic variables

H3: The mean post test knowledge score in experimental group is significantly higher than of mean post test knowledge score of control group .

Material and Methods

Research approach: Quantitative approach

Research design: Quasi experimental; non equivalent control group pre test - post test design
Variables :

Dependent variable: level of knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children.

Independent variable: educational intervention regarding child abuse among parents of school children.

Demographic variables: Age, gender, type of family, education of parents, religion, occupation, residence, no.of children, previous source of knowledge about child abuse.

Setting of the study: selected community areas of perinthalmanna.

Population: The target population of the study was parents of school children in selected community areas of perinthalmanna.

Sample: The sample of the study was parents of school children from selected community areas of perinthalmanna

Sample size: 60

Sampling Technique: non- probability ;convenient sampling technique.

Criteria for sample selection:

Inclusion criteria

The samples were the selected with the following predetermined criteria. The study includes parents who, Those who are available during the time of study

Those parents who can comprehend the tool

Exclusion criteria

The study excluded the samples who are,

Those who are not willing to participate in the study

Parents who are either physically or mentally ill or both.

Parents who attended training program on child abuse.

Data collection process

Formal permission was obtained from the concerned authorities of Angadipuram Grampanchayat to conduct the main study. The data collection was carried out from 27/11/2023 to 4/12/2023. 30 samples from experimental and 30 samples from control group were selected on the basis of inclusion and exclusion criteria using convenient non probability sampling technique. After a brief self introduction, the investigator explained the purpose of the study and obtained informed consent from the subjects. On day 1, the investigator assessed the demographic data as well as the knowledge level by administering knowledge questionnaire of both experimental and control group. Educational intervention

regarding child abuse was given to parents of school children in experimental group for a period of 30-45 minutes on on same day. On the 7th day post test level of knowledge of the subjects were assessed by using the same knowledge questionnaire.

The subjects were comfortable and cooperated well during the study.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

The project was approved by the institutional ethical committee of Al Shifa college of nursing .Formal permission was obtained from the samples prior to data collection. The samples were informed that the participation in the study was voluntary and they also have the freedom to withdraw from the study at any time. The confidentiality of samples was maintained. No ethical issues aroused during the course of study.This chapter has described the research methodology applied in the study. Research approach, research design, setting of the study, population, sample, and sampling technique, description of the tool, content validity, pilot study and data collection procedure and plan for data analysis were discussed in detail in this chapter.

Tool or Instruments: knowledge questionnaire

Data Analysis

Section A: Distribution of demographic characteristics of parents of school children at selected community areas of Perinthalmanna.

Section B: Level of knowledge of parents of school children regarding child abuse.

Section C: Effectiveness of educational intervention on knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children.

Section D: Association of level of knowledge and selected demographic variables in parents of school children.

RESULTS

The results are presented in four sections:

Section A: Distribution of demographic characteristics of parents of school children at selected community areas of Perinthalmanna.

Section B: level of knowledge of parents of school children regarding child abuse

Section C: effectiveness of educational intervention on knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children

Section D: Association of level of knowledge and selected demographic variables in parents of school children

Section A: description of demographic variables of selected samples

The characteristics of the study population are following:

Total no. of study participants is 60

Majority of the parents belongs to the age group of 26-35 years with percentage of 40%.

36.67% was fathers and 63.3% was mothers.

98.3% are married and 1.6%parent was divorcee.

Majority of the parents,30% was graduates.

Majority of the parents 41% were unemployed.

Majority of parents, 78.3% residing in rural area.

86.7% of the parents got knowledge regarding child abuse from social media.

majority of parents in the study, 55% were from joint family.

majority of the parents 55% were hindus

Majority of parents, 60% of the parents were having 2 children.

Section B: assessment of level of knowledge of parents of school children regarding child abuse

In experimental group 46.66% of the parents have average level of knowledge, 40% have good level of knowledge, 13.3% have poor level of knowledge. After the intervention, the percentage of the parents with good level of knowledge is 86.66%, 10% have excellent knowledge and 3.33% have average level of knowledge.

The pretest level of knowledge of control group, 36.66% of participants have good level of knowledge, 33.33% have average level of knowledge, 30% have poor knowledge and there is no participant have excellent knowledge. There is no considerable change in the level of knowledge among control group in post test.

Section C: assessment of effectiveness of educational intervention on knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children

The mean posttest knowledge score (19.30) is higher than mean pretest knowledge score 15.57% of the experimental group. The calculated 't' value is 5.5068 and p value is 0.0001. so, there is significant difference in the mean pretest and posttest knowledge score. This shows that parents of school children gain knowledge regarding child abuse after educational intervention.

The post test knowledge score of experimental and control group is 19.30 and 14.33 respectively. The obtained t value is 7.1400 and p value is 0.0001. it is evident that there is a statistically significant difference between post test knowledge score of experimental and control group. Hence hypothesis (H₃) is accepted. it shows that educational intervention regarding child abuse among parents of school children was effective.

Section D: Association of level of knowledge and selected demographic variables in parents of school children

There is a significant association between level of knowledge and age of parents

There is no statistically significant association between level of knowledge and other selected demographic variables like sex, education, occupation, area of residence, type of family, previous source of knowledge, religion and no. of children.

Conclusion

The difference between pre test and post test knowledge score of experimental and control group indicated that the structure teaching program was very effective in increasing the knowledge. The researcher found that there is an association between knowledge and age of parent and there is no association between level of knowledge and demographic variables like gender, education, occupation, residence, previous source of knowledge, type of family, religion and no. Of children.

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY

The study was done to assess level of knowledge regarding child abuse among parents of school children. The study showed that 46.66% of the parents have average level of knowledge, 40% have good level of knowledge, 13.3% have poor level of knowledge and there were no parents with excellent level of knowledge. This finding of study is in tune with the study conducted by Mrs. Beena Ninan in 2012, the result of the study revealed that 1.25% of mother had adequate knowledge level regarding child abuse, 3.75% of them had moderate knowledge and 76(95%) of them had inadequate knowledge. The study also revealed that educational intervention is effective in improving the level of knowledge among parents. The mean post test score of experimental group is higher than mean post test score of control group. (The t value is 5.507 and p value is 0.0001)

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