RESEARCH

Effectiveness of Video Assisted Teaching Programme (VATP) on Prevention and Management of Child Abuse Among Mothers of Children in Selected Rural Area, Mangalore

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ABSTRACT

Background: Every child has a right to a safe childhood and a life free from violence. The experience of child abuse and neglect infringe upon that right.[1] Health education will improve the knowledge level of the mothers so that proper awareness can be built towards the prevention and management of child abuse. The overall aim of the study was to assess the effectiveness of video assisted teaching programme on prevention and management of child abuse among mothers of children.

Method: Pre-experimental approach with one group pre-test – post-test design was adopted to accomplish the objectives. Non probability Purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample of 100 mothers and semi-structured knowledge questionnaire was developed to assess the knowledge level.

Results: The findings of the study revealed that most (57%) of the mothers had moderate knowledge and majority (43%) of the mothers had inadequate knowledge regarding prevention and management of child abuse. After administration of video assisted teaching programme (VATP), the posttest knowledge score (25.28± 2.025) was higher than the pretest knowledge score (11.03± 2.213). The calculated 't' value in knowledge (48.668; p< 0.05) was greater than the table value (1.98) at 0.05 level of significance.

Conclusions: The present study revealed that the mothers have lack of knowledge on prevention and management of child abuse and the overall findings of the study proved that there was a highly significant increase in the knowledge of the mothers on prevention and management of child abuse following the administration of the VATP. Therefore it was concluded that the VATP was highly effective in improving the knowledge of the mothers on prevention and management of child abuse.

Keywords: Effectiveness, Knowledge, Child Abuse, Video Assisted Teaching Programme (VATP), Prevention, Management, Children, Mother.

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INTRODUCTION

Every child deserves opportunities to gain knowledge and experience of how to live a good life. A child according to the United Nation means every human being below the age of 18 years.[2] Children are the world's most valuable resources and assets, but their rights throughout the world are largely ignored often resulting into tragic outcomes. Abuse most commonly refers to the use or maltreatment of something or someone that is harmful or the lack of proper care of these.[3] Child abuse is any maltreatment or neglect that result in non accidental harm or injury and which cannot be reasonably explained.[4] According to World Health Organization, "Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all form of physical and or emotional ill treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development of dignity in the context of a relationship or responsibility, trust or power".[5]

Causes of child abuse are high crime rate, lack or few of social services, high poverty rate, personal history of abuse as a child, teen age parents, young single parent, severe stress, history of depression, domestic violence, low self esteem, multiple young children, unwanted pregnancy, unwanted child and gender in the family, separation from the mother in neonatal period, physically unattractive, handicap child.[6] Harmful traditional practices like child marriage, caste system and discrimination against girl child, child labour and Devdasi tradition impact negatively on children and increase their vulnerability to abuse and neglect. Lack of adequate nutrition, poor access to medical and educational facilities, street children and child beggars increases the vulnerabilities of children and expose them to situation of abuse and neglect.[7,8]

The incidence rate of child abuse is about 48% in world wide. In that the abuse percentage in each area are- physical abuse 25%, neglect 54%, emotional abuse three percentages, sexual abuse 11% and other abuses about seven percentages.[10] The current incidence rate of child abuse in India is about 69% of children are abused in one or other way, in that physical abuse 45%, sexual abuse 30%, emotional abuse 20% and other abuse are five percentage.[7] Every second child reported facing emotional abuse in various situations and equal percentage of both girls and boys were reported with emotional abuse. More than 70% cases go unreported and unshared even with family or parents.[11]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Pre- experimental i.e. one group pre-test post-test design was adopted for the study. The study was conducted in Kadambodi rural area at Mangalore, Dakshin Kannada, Karnataka state. The population were the mothers having the children between 1-12 years of age in Kadambodi rural area, Mangalore and the sample size consists of 100 (n=100) mothers from selected area. Purposive sampling technique was adopted for sample selection. The researcher used semi-structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the knowledge of the mothers. The questionnaires include 30 items. Content validity of the developed tool was established before the data collection. The correlation was found using Karl-Pearson's coefficient formula. The correlation of the Split half test was found to be significant, r = 0.857. The reliability coefficient of the whole test was then estimated by Spearman- Brown Prophecy formula. The tool was found reliable r´= 0.922. The data collection period was from 9.11.2014- 27.11.2014. The data was collected and recorded systematically and was organized in a way that facilitated computer entry.

RESULTS

The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The results have been organized and presented as given below:

Part I: Description of the demographic characteristics of the mothers of rural area:
Date analyzed by descriptive statistics shows that majority (49%) of the mothers are between 36-45 years of age. Majority (43%) have one child who is less than 12 years in the family. Majority (37%) of the mothers have high school education. Most (53%) of the mothers are homemakers. Majority (37%) of the mothers have family income of Rs. 5001 to 10,000 per month. Majority (37%) of them are from joint family. Most (54%) of them are from Hindu religion. Among the participants, most (66%) do not have any previous information regarding child abuse.

Part II: Assessment of the knowledge of the mothers of rural area regarding prevention and management of child abuse:

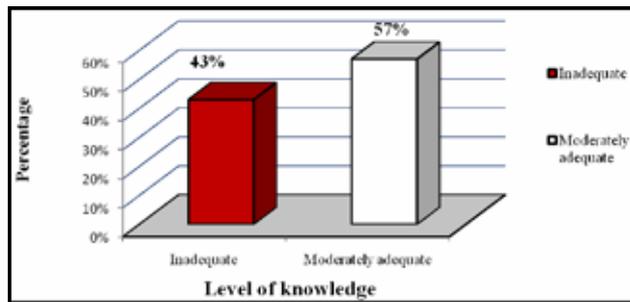**Section A: Assessment of the level of existing knowledge**

Figure 1: The bar diagram shows the percentage distribution of mothers of rural area according to the pretest level of the knowledge.

Section B: Area wise analysis of the pretest knowledge scores

Table 1: Area wise mean, SD and mean percentage of pretest knowledge scores of mothers regarding prevention and management of child abuse N=100

Area	Minimum score	Maximum score	Mean	SD	Mean percentage (%)
Area I	4	13	6.620	1.441	38.941
Area II	1	7	4.390	1.434	33.769
Overall knowledge	6	18	11.03	2.213	36.766

Part III: Effectiveness of the video assisted teaching programme on prevention and management of child abuse:

Section A: Level of knowledge and effectiveness in pretest with post test and effectiveness of the study

Table 2: Comparison of level of knowledge and effectiveness in pretest with post test and effectiveness of the study N= 100

Level of Knowledge	Pre test			Post test			Mean	
	Frequency	%	Mean	Frequency	%	Mean	Difference	t Test
Inadequate	43	43	11.03	0	0	25.28	14.25	48.66*
Moderately adequate	57	57		4	4			
Adequate	0	0		96	96			
p < 0.05						* =		Significant

Section B: Area wise mean, SD and mean percentage of pre-test and post-test.

Table 3: Mean, SD and mean difference of pretest and post test   N=100

Areas	No. of Items	Knowledge score								
		Pretest (A)			Posttest (B)			Effectiveness (B-A)		
		Mean	SD	Mean%	Mean	SD	Mean%	Mean	SD	Mean%
Area I	17	6.620	1.441	38941	14.59	1.172	85.823	7.97	0.269	46.882
Area II	13	4.390	1.434	33.769	10.68	1.503	82.153	6.29	0.069	48.384
Total	30	11.03	2.213	36.766	25.28	2.025	84.266	14.25	0.188	47.5

Part IV: Association between pre-test knowledge scores of mothers of rural area on prevention and management of child abuse with selected demographic variables.

Table 4: Association between pre-test knowledge scores of mothers of rural area on prevention and management of child abuse with selected demographic variables

N= 100

Demographic variables	χ^2	Knowledge Df	p value	Inference
Age of mother	0.276	1	0.537	NS
Number of children	0.531	1	0.615	NS
Education	0.085	1	0.244	NS
Occupation	0.638	1	0.384	NS
Family income	0.012	1	1.00	NS
Type of family	0.056	1	0.827	NS
Religion	7.181	1	0.06	S
Previous information	0.026	1	1.00	NS

Data presented in Table 4 reveals that the calculated chi-Square value of source of information is greater than that of table value (3.84) for religion at 0.05 level of significance, hence it is concluded that there is a significant association between the pre-existing knowledge with the selected demographic variable on child abuse.

DISCUSSION

In order to make the mother understand more about child abuse, they must be made to understand what child abuse is all about.[12] The present study was designed to assess the effectiveness of video

assisted teaching programme on prevention and management of child abuse among mothers of children in selected rural area, Mangalore. In view of the nature of the problem under study and to achieve the objectives, a pre-experimental one group pre-test post-test research design was found to be appropriate to describe the study. Non probability purposive sampling technique was used to select the samples. The data were collected from 100 mothers from Kadambodi, rural area, Mangalore.

Majority (49%) of the mothers were between 36-45 years of age. Majority (43%) of the mothers have one child who is less than 12 years in the family. Majority (37%) of the mothers have high school education. Most (53%) of the mothers are homemakers. Majority (37%) of the mothers have family income of Rs. 5001 to 10,000 per month. Majority (37%) of them are from joint family. Most (54%) of them are hindu. Most (66%) do not have any previous information regarding child abuse. Most (57%) of the mothers had moderate knowledge and majority (43%) of the mothers had inadequate knowledge regarding prevention and management of child abuse in pretest knowledge scores. Highest (96%) of the mothers gained adequate knowledge and 4% of the mothers gained moderate knowledge regarding prevention and management of child abuse in posttest knowledge scores.

The findings revealed that the mean post test score (25.28 ± 2.025) was significantly higher than their mean pre test score (11.03 ± 2.213). The value of 't' was calculated to analyze the difference in knowledge score of the mothers (N=100) of rural area in pre-test and post-test. The calculated 't' value (t=48.668, p<0.05) in knowledge aspect was greater than the table value (t_{99}=1.98) at 0.05 level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected and the research hypothesis was accepted indicating the gain in knowledge was not by chance. There was a significant association between the level of knowledge of the mothers and the selected demographic variables.

CONCLUSION

Child abuse is more than bruises and broken bones. It is defined as any acts of commission or omission that endangers or impairs child's emotional or physical health and development.[13] Children depend on adults as they grow up and no one wants to see their children growing up with fear, anger or neglect. But no one is born knowing how to care for children. Sometimes we make mistakes that hurt them.[14,15] As a parent or care provider, one should be more acutely aware of the need to protect the child from abuse. Adequate knowledge regarding child abuse is important for prevention and management of it. Since the mother is the primary care giver of the child, plays a pivotal role in the whole process of prevention and management of child abuse. Whether one is a parent, a teacher, a relative or a caregiver, they can make a difference and help the children to grow up in a caring, loving environment.[16]

In order to make the mother understand more about child abuse, they must be made to understand what child abuse is all about. The present study was designed to assess the effectiveness of video assisted teaching programme on prevention and management of child abuse among mothers of children in selected rural area, Mangalore.

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