

“A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES REGARDING WORM INFESTATION AMONG THE MOTHERS OF SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN AT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE, MEERUT

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BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Worm infestations have a close relationship with the socio demographic and ecological factors like poverty, illiteracy, poor personal and environmental hygiene. Children are at risk due to their activities like play and lack of importance to personal hygiene. From the children, the entire family may eventually get worms and suffer. Worm infestation is one of the major health problems in developing India. It mainly affects the children, which may deteriorate their health status.

S Jimmie (2020):- worm infestations are one the most widely prevalent neglected tropical disease (NTDs) which are inextricably linked to poor sanitation and hygiene. This study aims to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching plan and child to child teaching in raising awareness about helminthiasis. The result of the study revealed that 86.6% of school children student were having poor knowledge regarding prevention and management of worm infestation. student to student teaching program was an effective strategy to increase the knowledge of school children as indicated by the computed value which was statically significant at 0.05 level of significance. student to student teaching programmed was effective in increasing the knowledge of school children regarding prevention and management of worm infestation and the study findings stresses the increasing responsibility of health professionals in planning and implementation various innovative educational strategies to improve the knowledge of school children regarding the major health issues.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To assess the knowledge and practice regarding worm infestation among the mothers of school age children.
2. To correlate the knowledge and practices of worm infestation among the mothers of school age children.
3. To find out the association between the mothers' knowledge on worm infestation and demographic variables.
4. To find out the association between the mothers' practice on worm infestation and demographic variable.

METHODOLOGY:

The research design adopted for the study was descriptive design and research approach adopted for this study was non experimental approach. The sample size was 100 mothers of school age children. The mothers were selected in community area, Meerut. Data was collected by using structured interview questionnaire:

This consists of three sections

Section A: Comprised of demographic data

Section B: Comprised of structured interview schedule on the knowledge regarding worm infestations, which had 25 items.

Section C: Comprised of structured interview schedule regarding practices on worm infestations, which had 9 items.

RESULTS:

In this mean score was 12.45, standard deviation was 4.157 and 39% of mothers had inadequate knowledge, 42% of mothers had moderately adequate knowledge, 19% of mothers had adequate knowledge regarding worm infestation. In this score was found on level of practice regarding worm infestation among the mothers of school age children, mean score was 5.05, standard deviation was 1.498 and 25% of mothers had poor practice, 44% of mothers had fair practice, 31% of mothers had good practice of worm infestation.

KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE REGARDING WORM INFESTATION AMONG THE MOTHER OF SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN.

PART A: LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE

ASSESSMENT OF MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION OF KNOWLEDGE SCORE

Number of samples	Mean	Standard Deviation
100	12.45	4.157

In this study correlation was found in correlation of knowledge and practice of school age children regarding worm infestation knowledge mean score and standard deviation was 12.45 ±4.157, practice mean score and standard deviation was 5.05 ±1.498, $r=0.0241$, $p<0.0001$. It shows that **negative correlation between knowledge and practice of worm infestation among mothers of school age children**. When knowledge increases their practice also decreases highly.

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE WITH SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILES

Association between the knowledge and selected demographic profiles

Demographic Variable		Inadequate		Chi Square	Significance
		AM	BM		
Age of the mothers	<26 Years	29	22	1.430	NS P=<0.05
	26-30 Years	12	10		
	31-35 Years	6	6		
	36-40 Years	3	5		
	>40 Years	3	4		
Educational Status of mothers	Primary	26	16	11.193*	S P=<0.05
	Middle	13	9		
	High School	4	11		
	Higher Secondary	2	9		
	Degree	6	4		
Occupation of the mothers	Housewife	32	39	7.859*	S P=<0.05
	Working women	22	7		
Monthly family income	< Rs.1001/-	20	20	3.389	NS P=<0.05
	Rs.1001-5000/-	6	9		
	Rs.5001-10,000/-	29	16		
Number of school age children in the family	One	9	11	*	S P=<0.05
	Two	27	11		
	Three	15	15		
	Above Three	3	9		
Dietary pattern	Vegetarian	34	24	1.187	NS P=<0.05

CONCLUSION

The present study assessed the knowledge and practices of mothers regarding worm infestation among school age children. The result revealed that majority 42% of the mothers moderately adequate knowledge regarding worm infestation and 44% of them had fair practices towards prevention of worm infestations. Demographic variables have influence on the knowledge and practices of mother regarding worm infestation among the school age children. There is a negative relation between knowledge and practice.

Key words: Knowledge, practices; mothers; worm infestation; school age children; health education lesson plan practice regarding worm infestation among the school age children.