

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF DOMESTIC WATER PURIFICATION AMONG HOUSEWIVES AT SELECTED VILLAGE COIMBATORE”.

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Abstract : Clean and safe water is one of the basic needs of humans beings. Inaccessibility to this and poor sanitation leads to various water borne diseases, gastro entropathy and under nutrition. In Coimbatore, only 40% and 37% of total population had excellent knowledge and practice and 30 % and 53% of housewives had good and poor knowledge and practice of water purification. So the objective of this study was to assess the level of knowledge and practices regarding safe drinking water among women.

Materials and methods: a descript cross- sectional research design was adopted for the study. A convenient sampling technique was used for sample collection. A self designed structured questionire along with face to face interview was to evaluate the knowledge .Data were analysed by using descriptive as well as inferential statistics to find out association between levels of knowledge of safe drinking water.

Result: the findings showed that among 100 participants, 40 % had adequate knowledge, 30% had moderate knowledge regarding safe water and sanitation. In this study most of the participants had moderate knowledge about safe drinking water and sanitation. Thus, the author feels community mass health education is required in this community to prevent water borne diseases.

Key words: knowledge, practice, Domestic water purification, housewives.

INTRODUCTION

Water is one of the very crucial natural resources. It is available abundantly on the surface of earth. There is about 1.4 billion cubic kilometer of water on the earth which comes about 71 percent of the earth’s surface. About 97 percent of the water on the earth is in the oceans. The ocean water is salty and is not suitable for human consumption. The remaining 3 percent of the total water is available in the form of ice sheets, could, river, lakes, ponds, well and springs. Only 1- 1.6 percent of the 3 percent of water, is useful for human consumption. – sobey MD (2003)

The water on the surface of earth has its own journey. The water from the ocean gets evaporated by the sun’s heat. Evaporated water, rises up into the air and forms clouds and later fall onto the earth in the form of rain and snow and flows on the earth as streams, lakes, rivers which ultimately fall in the oceans like air, water is also very essential for man to survive. But unlike air, man can live without water for about a week or so. The water which is required for human consumption should be palatable and free from any kind of impurities so that it is safe and suitable for daily activities. – Shnestha RK

Access to drinking water is a fundamental concern for many countries, including Bangladesh. Drinking of unsafe water might result to cause diseases and illness which heightens the economic

economic burden for every one by increasing the treatment costs and work days lost. In Bangladesh, rural households coupled with the lack of safe water, also faces water- contamination with arsenic and other pollutions. Safe drinking water remains inaccessible to many humans in the developing countries. Research continuously innovates to develop efficient and cheap methods to sustain clean water for developing countries. – Sankara G. H (1995).

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

“A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF DOMESTIC WATER PURIFICATION AMONG HOUSEWIVES IN KANNAMPALAYAM VILLAGE, COIMBATORE”.

Household water treatment (HWT) can improve drinking water quality and prevent disease, if used correctly and consistently. While international monitoring suggests that 1.8 billion people practice HWT, these estimates are based on household surveys that may overstate the level of consistent use and do not address microbiological effectiveness. We sought to examine how HWT is practiced among households identified as HWT users according to international monitoring standards. Water is one of the basic needs for survival, and potable water is essential for good health. Contaminated drinking water is a major health hazard in developing countries, and water- related diseases are a significant contributor to the global burden of illness. Thus, for populations without reliable access to safe drinking water, household water treatment provides a means of improving water quality and preventing disease- Danglo(2008).

OBJECTIVES:

- To assess the knowledge and practice of housewives regarding domestic methods of water purification.
- To find out the association between knowledge of housewives regarding domestic methods of water purification and selected demographic variables.
- To find out the association between practice of housewives regarding domestic of water purification and selected demographic variables.

HYPOTHESES:

H1 – There will be significant association between knowledge, practices of housewives on domestic methods of water purification and selected demographic variables.

ASSUMPTIONS:

The study assumed that,

- ✓ Housewives may have inadequate knowledge regarding domestic methods of water purification.
- ✓ Housewives using contaminated water lead to water borne diseases such as typhoid, dysentery, and diarrhea in under five children.

DELIMITATIONS:

- The sample includes houswives in rural area.
- The sample size is 30.

Methodology

The study’s Conceptual framework based on modified widenbach’s helping art of clinical nursing theory (1970). A quasi experimental study was conducted to assess the knowledge, practice of domestic water purification by using purposive sampling technique at a selected area, Coimbatore. Structured self administration questions was used to assess the knowledge and practice of housewives regarding domestic water purification. Descriptive and inferential statistics, including frequencies, percentages, means, SD,

and chi-square tests, were used to examine the gathered data. For safe domestic methods of water management, the knowledge and practice of correlation.

Results

Table 1: Knowledge Level Of Housewives On Domestic Water Purification

s. no	Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Poor knowledge	9	30%
2.	Good knowledge	9	30%
3.	Excellent knowledge	12	40%

Table 2: Practice Level Of Housewives On Domestic Water Purification

s. no	Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Poor Practice	3	10%
2.	Good Practice	16	53%
3.	Excellent Practice	11	37%

Table 3: Association Of Demographic Variable With Level Of Knowledge And Practice Level Of Housewives On Domestic Water Purification

S.No	Demographic Data	Severity Of Problem			Df	Chi Square	Level Of Significance
1.	Number of family members				6	15.96	significant
	3 Members	5	6	1			
	4 Members	2	1	9			
	5 Members	0	2	1			
	6 Members	2	0	1			
2.	Educational qualification				6	14.77	significant
	Illiterate	1	6	5			
	Read/ write	2	4	0			
	Primary / secondary	0	4	0			
	Diploma / Degree	0	2	6			

Discussion

This study was done to assess the knowledge and practice of domestic water purification among housewives in Kannampalayam village, Coimbatore. The discussion of the present study was based on the findings obtained from statistical analysis of collected data.

CONCLUSION

The study was done to assess the knowledge and practice of domestic water purification among housewives in Kannampalayam village, Coimbatore. The statistical analysis of the study showed that there was an increase in the level of knowledge and practice of safe drinking water remains accessible to many humans in the developing countries. In this study we found many housewives were not following proper water purification and not aware about the purification method at home. Hence many awareness programmes

need to be conducted in rural village on proper water storage and domestic water treatment method by the housewives. Thereby many water borne disease can be prevented and improve the health status of the people.

IMPLICATION

The findings of the study have implications in different aspects of nursing profession such as nursing practice, nursing education, nursing research and nursing administration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The study recommends the following further research.

There is need for extensive research in water purification.

The study can be conducted with large samples to generalize the findings.

Comparative studies can be conducted between various alternative modalities like comparison of domestic purification vs electronic purification.

Similar study can be done among women in various age groups.

Comparative study can be undertaken between rural and urban housewives.

Comparative study can be undertaken between adolescent girls vs housewives.

Correlation study can be conducted to find out the relationship between water borne diseases and clinical signs and symptoms of worm infestation.

Explore the risk factors of water borne disease among under five children.

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