

# A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE ON PREVENTION OF DIARRHOEAL DISEASE AMONG THE MOTHERS OF UNDERFIVE CHILDREN (0-5 YEARS) IN SELECTED RURAL COMMUNITY AT KARAIKAL MEDU, KARAIKAL

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**ABSTRACT:** A study was conducted to assess the knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease among the mothers of underfive children (0-5 years) in selected rural community at Karaikalmedu, Karaikal. The objectives of the study are to assess the knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease among the mother's of underfivechildren and to find association between selected demographic variables with knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease among mothers of underfive children. Research approach used for this study is quantitative approach and research design is descriptive design. The sample for the study was mothers of underfive children. Convenient sampling techniques was used to select 30 mothers of underfive children. Self structured questionnaires was administered to each mothers separately and data was collected. The study revealed that 24(80%) Of mothers had inadequate knowledge, 4(13%) of mothers had moderately adequate knowledge and 2(7%) of mother had adequate knowledge.

**Key Words:**

## INTRODUCTION:

**"Childrens Are The Future Pillars Of A Nation"**

**"Childrens Are The Wealth Of Tomorrow"**

**-Dr.A.P.J.Abdulkalam**

Children are the major consumers of the health care. In India, about 35 percent of total population are children below 15 years of age. They are not large in number but vulnerable to various health problems and considered as special risk groups. The Underfive children are easy to prone get many of disease but most of children affected by diarrhoeal disease. Breast feed babies are protected against development of diarrhoea because breast milk is free from contamination and it contains several protective agents. The diarrhoeal disease is major factor for increasing mortality rates. Diarrhoeal disease caused by "ROTAVIRUS". This disease mostly affected in under five years of children. Diarrhoea is the third leading cause of childhood mortality in India. And is responsible for 13% of all deaths/year in children under 5 year of age. And 9% of all deaths among the children under five at worldwide in 2015.

300,000 children in India each year died by the diarrhoeal disease. Its determines in India preventive and control strategies in light of recent developments need to be received for better planning and organization of health service within the community.

Diarrhoea is a leading killer of children, accounting for approximately 8 per cent of all deaths among children under age 5 worldwide in 2016. In Tamilnadu over 1,300 young children dying each day, or about 480,000 children a year, despite the availability of simple effective treatment.

Most deaths from diarrhoea occur among children less than 2 years of age. From 2000 to 2016, the total annual number of deaths from diarrhoea among children under 5 decreased by 60 per cent. Many more children could be saved through basic interventions. Main causes of diarrhoeal disease are infection, malnutrition, sources like faeces and unhygienic foods .

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease among the mothers of underfive children (0-5 years) in selected rural community at karaikalmedu.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

- To assess the knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease among the mother’s of underfive children.
- To find association between selected demographic variables with knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease among mothers of underfive children.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Research approach used for this study is quantitative approach. The research design for this study was descriptive research design. The study was conducted in karaikalmedu at karaikal. The population for the present study was mothers of underfive children. The sample for the study was mothers of underfive children who are residing in karaikalmedu at karaikal. Convenient sampling techniques was used for the study. The participants for the study were collected on the basis of selection criteria. The sample size was 30 mothers of underfive children. The tool consists of two parts. Section-1--Demographic data which age, gender, class, family, residence, occupation, education status of the mother, monthly income, previous exposure to knowledge regarding prevention of diarrhoeal disease. Section-2 -Totally this section II has 20 items to assess the knowledge regarding diarrhoeal disease. The questionnaires consists of 20 items, mark one is awarded for the right answer and zero mark for wrong answer. Regarding Scoring Below 50% - Inadequate knowledge, 51-75%- Moderately adequate knowledge, 76-100%- Adequate knowledge .After getting written permission from panchayat leader in karaikalmedu, karaikal, informed oral consent was obtained from the study participants. Data was collected from mothers of underfive children using structured questionnaire.

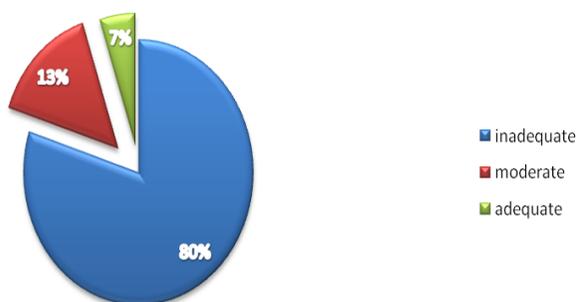
**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Major Findings Of The Study:**

- With regard to the age of mothers of underfive children, 28% were belonged to the age group between 20-25 years, 46% were belonged to the age of 25-30 years, and 20% were belonged to the age of 30-35 years and 2% were belonged to the age group between above 35 years.
- According to educational status of mothers of underfive children, 3(10%) of mothers had others, 6(20%) of mothers had primary education, 13(43%) of mothers had secondary education and 8(27%) of mothers had degree or diploma educational qualification.
- Based on the occupational of study participants 2(7%) are working as government employee, 4(13%) are working as private employee, 5(17%) are working as self employee and 19(63%) are house wife.
- With respect to the family income 6(20%) of mothers were belonged to monthly family income of less than Rs.5,000/-, 8(27%) of mothers were belonged to income of Rs.5,000 - 10,000/-, and 8(27%) of mothers were belonged to income of Rs.10,000 – 15,000, and 8(27%) of mothers were belonged to monthly family income above Rs.15,000/-.
- Based on the types of family 21(70%) of mothers belonged to nuclear family and 9(30%) of mothers belonged to joint family.
- Based on types of house 5(17%) of mothes are lives in tiled house, and 25(83%) of mothers are lives in Thatched house.

**Level of Knowledge On Prevention Of Diarrhoeal Disease Among Mothers Of Underfive Children**

**Level of knowledge**



The study revealed that 24(80%) Of mothers had inadequate knowledge, 4(13%) of mothers had moderately adequate knowledge and 2(7%) of mother had adequate knowledge.

• **Association Between The Level Of Knowledge On Prevention Of Diarrhoeal Disease**

The result of this study showed that there was no significant association found between all demographic variable such as age, education, occupation, religion, types of house.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A similar study can be conducted in the large samples for better generalization.
- A study to assess knowledge and prevention of diarrhoeal disease can be conducting among mothers of underfive children.
- A Comparative study can be done in rural and urban areas.

**CONCLUSION**

The study concluded that 24(80%) Of mothers had inadequate knowledge, 4(13%) of mothers had moderately adequate knowledge and 2(7%) of mother had adequate knowledge. This shows that there is a need to impart knowledge on prevention of diarrhoeal disease. This should cover different aspects of prevention of diarrhoeal disease and in an effective manner with attractive AV aids.

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