A study to assess the knowledge on prevention of road traffic accidents among school children (10-14year) in government high school, Salem, Tamil Nadu,

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ABSTRACT: A non experimental descriptive design with cross sectional survey approach was undertaken to assess the knowledge on prevention of road traffic accidents among school children (10-14year) in government high school, Salem. It was concluded that overall mean knowledge score was 18.58±6.39 which is (64.64%) of the total score reveals that school children had good knowledge. They had average knowledge on general area of road traffic accident (68.4%) and prevention of road traffic accident was (71.5%).

Key Words: :

INTRODUCTION
Children of today are the adults of tomorrow, they deserve to inherit a safer, fairer and healthier world. There is no task more important than safe guarding their environment. “Prevention is better than cure” lack of knowledge and awareness about prevention of road traffic accidents among school children (10-14year) which are influenced by parents, low social class, psychological stress and unsafe environment. So the parents are in a position to safe guard the children from unintentional injuries and death. A children with adequate knowledge of prevention of road traffic accidents is important to safeguard.

Statement of problem
A study to assess the knowledge on prevention of road traffic accidents among school children (10-14year) in government high school, Salem, Tamil Nadu,

Objectives
1. To assess the knowledge on prevention of road traffic accidents among school children.
2. To compare the knowledge score with demographic variables.

Research design and approach
A descriptive design with cross sectional survey approach.

Setting of the study
The study was conducted in Salem, Tamil Nadu.

Population
Children between the age group of 10-14years.

Sample size
50 School children in Salem.

Tools used
A structure questionnaire to assess the knowledge on prevention of road traffic accidents among school children.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
Highest percentages(52%) of children were in the age group of 10years and most of them 58% were male, 80% were belonged to Hindu religions, most of school children fathers (78.91%) were no formal education, most of school children mothers (28%) had no formal education. The overall mean knowledge score was 18.58±6.39 which is (64.64%) of the total score reveals that school children had good knowledge. They had average knowledge on general area of road traffic accident (68.4%) and prevention of road traffic accidents was (71.5%).

Mean, and Mean percentage of knowledge scores of school Children regarding general area of road traffic accident and prevention of road traffic accident.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Knowledge score</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Mean %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>General area of road traffic accident</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Prevention of road traffic accident</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>71.05%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>71.08</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The area wise distribution of mean, mean percentage of knowledge score of school children on general area of road traffic accident was 3.42 which is 68.4% and prevention of road traffic accidents was 22.8 which is 71.05%. The overall mean score was 26.3 which is 71.08%. They had average knowledge on general area of road traffic accident and prevention of road traffic accidents.

CONCLUSION

The present study concluded that the most of the school children have average knowledge on general area of road traffic accident and prevention of road traffic accidents. Hence the study interpreted that the investigator needs to conduct comparative study to assess the knowledge of school children regarding prevention of road traffic accidents in urban and rural government school.

REFERENCE