"A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF WORM INFESTATION AMONG MOTHERS IN PUDHUCOLONY RURAL COMMUNITY AREA AT ERODE DISTRICT".

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ABSTRACT

The research design adopted for this study is descriptive design. The population of the study was mother (18-35 yrs) worm infestation coming under pudhucolony rural area thindal primary health centre. 30 mothers were selected for this study by using convenient sampling technique. Data collection was stared in pudhucolony rural area among mother within 18 to 35 years. The questionnaire was read by the researcher to the participant and they were asked to respond to the same. Descriptive statistics were used to analysis the data. Demographic characteristics were computed by descriptive statistics and to compare and associate inferential statistics were applied.

INTRODUCTION

Children change the world for the parents and near ones. Those chubby smile and muffled talks are sheer of joy for all. This bundle of joy brings some memorable days for all. But it is equally important to take care of your little ones so that he gets to enjoy complete development both mentally and physically. Here we will be discussing about worn infestation and its related issues.

Children's are most often affected with intestinal worms and parasites. This is most often found in tropical and subtropical areas. The children are more prone to this than adults. The intestinal worm infestation results in irritating sensation in the abdomen. Some of the common parasite worms are roundworm, hookworm, threadworm and tapeworm.

Worm infection remains one of the main problem of child development. This is especially greater hazard in the developing countries. Of 146 children, aged 7-12 yrs, attending school in rural Guatemala, 91% carried ascaris lumbricoides and 82% carried TrichurisTrichuria. In Madagascar, a study prevalence of 93% of ascaris lumbricoides, 55% for Trichuris Trichuria and 27z5 hookworm, 38% for Trichuris Trichuria, 16% for hookworm and 0.4% for schistostoma in children. A very high percentage (81%) of children from suburbs of abottabad has

intestinal worm infestation and majority of them (48% of positive cases) have ascaris lumbricoides. Children were not severely anaemic of virtually no hook worm cases.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Helminthes which are paramount important today in the health of children specially in India where 80% its population lives in rural areas. Wherever unsanitary condition prevails, the helminthes lead to great amount of ill-health in children.

Worm infestation disease is widely distributed in the tropical and subtropical zones of the world, wherever excreta disposal facilities are poor or non existen several soil related host related and climate-related factors are known to bear an epidemiological association with the endemicity of the worm disease. These factors determine the growth and survival of worm larvae in the environment as well as their transmission potential.

OBJECTIVES

➢ To assess the knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers in rural community.
➢ To assess the practice regarding worm infestation among mothers in pudhucolony.
➢ Compare the knowledge and practice of worm infestation among mothers in rural community.
➢ Association between knowledge regarding worm infestation with demographic variables.
➢ Association between the practice regarding worm infestation with demographic variables.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The research design adopted for this study is descriptive design.

SETTING OF THE STUDY

The study was conducted in pudhucolony rural area located 8 km away from Nandha College of nursing.

POPULATION

The population of the study was mother (18-35) yrs worm infestation coming under pudhucolony rural area thindal primary health centre.

SAMPLE SIZE

The sample size included for this study was 30.

SAMPLE TECHNIQUE

Samples were selected using non probability convenient sampling technique. This techniques improved use of the most common available people as subjects. In this study people who fulfilled sampling criteria were selected till the target sample size of 30 was obtained.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Descriptive statistics were used to analysis the data. Demographic characteristics were computed by descriptive statistics and to compare and associate inferential statistics were applied.

TABLE – 1 DESCRIPTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE SAMPLES

S. No	Demographic variables	No. of. Sample = 30	Percentage (%)
1.	**Age in years** a. 18-23 years b. 24-29 years c. 30-35 years	10 12 8	33.3% 40% 26.7%
2.	**Religion** a. Hindu b. Christian c. Muslims	23 1 6	76.7% 3.3% 20%
3.	**Marital Status** a. Married with children b. Married without children c. Widow d. Divorce	29 - 1 -	96.7% - 3.3% -
4.	**Education** a. Up to 5th std b. 5th – 10th std c. Under graduate d. Post graduate	16 11 3 -	53.3% 36.7% 10% -
5.	**Occupation** a. House wife b. Teacher c. Tailor d. Coolie e. Others	13 9 5 2 1	43.3% 30 16.7% 7% 3%

6.	**Attending health programmer**		
	a. Attended once	6	20%
	b. Attended twice	5	17%
	c. Attended three times and above	1	3%
	d. Not attended	18	60%
7.	**Mass media**		
	a. Television	26	87%
	b. Newspaper	1	3%
	c. Radio	3	10%
	d. Others	-	-

TABLE – 2 DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGE OF WORM INFESTATION AMONG 18-35 YRS MOTHERS.

S. NO	KNOWLEDGE	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1.	**Poor**	22	73%
2.	**Average**	8	27%
3.	**Good**	-	-

The above table represents to knowledge on worm infestation. Among 30 samples, 22(73%) were having poor practice, 8(27%) were having average practice.

TABLE – 3 DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE ACCORDING TO PRACTICE OF WORM INFESTATION AMONG 18-35 YRS MOTHERS.

S. NO	PRACTICE	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1.	**Poor**	13	43%
2.	**Average**	15	50%
3.	**Good**	2	7%

The above table represents the practice on worm infestation. Among 30 samples 13(43%) were having poor practice, 15(50%) were having average 2(7%) were having good practice.

TABLE – 4 DISTRIBUTIONS OF SAMPLES ACCORDING TO MEAN KNOWLEDGE OF WORM INFESTATION , N : 30

S. NO	PRACTICE	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION
1.	Poor	22	73%		
2.	Average	8	27%	0.45%	2.19%
3.	Good	-	-		

The above the table represents the mean knowledge of the worm infestation on health appraisal. Among 30 samples 22(73%) were having poor practice, 8(27%) were having average practice.

TABLE – 5 DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE ACCORDING TO PRACTICE MEAN PRACTICE OF WORM INFESTATION.

S. NO	PRACTICE	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION
1.	Poor	13	43%		
2.	Average	15	50%	0.53%	0.38%
3.	Good	2	7%		

The above the table represents the mean practice of the worm infestation on health appraisal. Among 30 samples 13(43%) were having poor practice, 15(50%) were having average practice and 2(7%) were having good practice.

TABLE – 8 COMPARISONS OF KNOWLEDGE SCORE AND PRACTICE SCORE OF MOTHER ON TRACT INFESTATION IN PUDHUCOLONY.

Score of knowledge and practice of Worm infestation				Number of Sample	Mean	Standard deviation	Distribution of Freedom	T Value
	Poor	Average	Good					
Knowledge of Worm infestation	22	8	-	30	0.45%	2.19%	2	1.863
Practice of Worm infestation	13	15	2	30	0.53%	0.38%	4	0.841

(S) (Significant) (there is significant relationship between knowledge and practice score of worm infestation.

The above table represents the comparison knowledge score and practice score of mother on worm infestation in Pudhucolony. The mean knowledge of worm infestation is 0.45%. The standard deviation is 2.19%. The obtained 't' value at degree of freedom (2) 1.863 is significant.

The mean practice score of worm infestation id 0.53%. The standard deviation of the practice score of worm infestation is 0.38%. The obtained 't' value at degree of freedom (2) 0.841is significant.

TABLE – VII ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLE WITH KNOWLEDGE SCORE WORM INFESTATION.

S. No	Demographic variables	P	A	G	DF	X2
1.	**Age in years**					
	a.　18-23 years	8	2	-		
	b.　24-29 years	8	4	-	4	(9.49)
	c.　30-35 years	6	2	-		N.S
2.	**Religion**					
	a.　Hindu	18	5	-		
	b.　Christian	-	1	-	4	(9.49)
	c.　Muslims	4	2	-		N.S
3.	**Marital Status**					
	a.　Married with children	22	8	-		
	b.　Married without children	-	-	-	6	(12.59)
	c.　Widow	-	-	-		N.S
	d.　Divorce	-	-	-		
4.	**Education**					
	a.　Illiterate	-	-	-		
	b.　Up to 5th	12	4	-	10	(18.31)
	c.　Up to 10th	9	2	-		N.S
	d.　11th to 12th	-	-	-		
	e.　Under graduate	1	2	-		
	f.　Post graduate	-	-	-		
5.	**Occupation**					
	a.　House wife	11	2	-		
	b.　Teacher	-	2	-		
	c.　Tailor	4	1	-	8	(15.51)
	d.　Coolie	6	3	-		N.S
	e.　Others	1	-	-		

6.	**Attending health programmer**					
	a. Attended once	6	-	-		
	b. Attended twice	3	2	-	6	(12.59)
	c. Attended three and above	1	-	-		N.S
	d. Not attended	12	6	-		
7.	**Exposive to Mass Media**					
	a. Television	17	8	-		
	b. Newspaper	1	-	-	6	(12.59)
	c. Radio	4	-	-		N.S
	d. Others	-	-	-		

NS (Non Significance) there is no association of Worm Infestation with demographic variables.

TABLE – VIII ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLE WITH PRACTICE SCORE OF WORM INFESTATION.

S. No	Demographic variables	P	A	G	DF	X2
1.	**Age in years**					
	a. 18-23 years	6	4	-		2.45
	b. 24-29 years	4	7	1	4	(7.82)
	c. 30-35 years	3	4	1		N.S
2.	**Religion**					
	a. Hindu	10	11	2	-	2.51
	b. Christian	-	1	-	4	(7.82)
	c. Muslims	2	3	-	-	N.S
3.	**Marital Status**					
	a. Married with children	13	15	2		11.115
	b. Married without children	-	-	-	6	(12.59)
	c. Widow	-	-	-		N.S
	d. Divorce	-	-	-		
4.	**Education**					
	g. Illiterate	-	-	2		0.88
	h. Up to 5th	5	9	-	10	(3.84)
	i. Up to 10th	7	4	-		N.S
	j. 11th to 12th	-	-	-		
	k. Under graduate	1	2	-		
	l. Post graduate	-	-	-		
5.	**Occupation**					
	a. House wife	4	7	2		
	b. Teacher	4	5	-	8	9.39
	c. Tailor	4	1	-		N.S
	d. Coolie	1	1	-		
	e. Others	-	1	-		
6.	**Attending health programmer**					
	a. Attended once	3	1	2		10.6

b.	Attended twice	2	3	-	6	(S)
c.	Attended three and above	-	1	-		
d.	Not attended	7	11	-		
7.	**Exposive to Mass Media**					
a.	Television	12	11	2		10.32
b.	Newspaper	1	-	-	6	(S)
c.	Radio	0	4	-		
d.	Others	-	-	-		

S : (Significance) there is association of practice score of worm infestation with age.

NS : (Non Significance) there is no association in practice of worm infestation with demographic variables.

CONCLUSION

The study of findings provided information about knowledge and practice of worm Infestation. They have poor knowledge and practice related to worm infestation this can be conducted in large population and awareness programmer is needed to improve its effectiveness.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Similar study can be conducted with large samples.
- Similar study can be conducted in different age groups.
- Comparative study can be conducted on prevalence of worm infestation problems in rural area
- Similar study can be conducted by using true experimental design.