



International Journal of Medicine and Health Profession Research

Journal home page: www.ijmhpr.com

<https://doi.org/10.36673/IJMHPR.2022.v09.i01.A02>



EFFECTIVENESS OF CHILD TO MOTHER APPROACH ON KNOWLEDGE REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AMONG MOTHERS OF SCHOOL GOING CHILDREN IN SELECTED SCHOOLS AT TRICHY

P. Arivumalar*¹

¹*Department of Child Health Nursing, Kasturba Gandhi College of Nursing, Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, India.

ABSTRACT

Children are the any future nation and the major consumers of health care. The study aimed to determine the effectiveness of child to mother approach on knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children. Quasi experimental non equivalent control group pre-test post-test design and non probability convenience sampling technique was used to select 30 mothers of school going children in experimental and 30 mothers of school going children in control group. A structured self administered knowledge questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge in mothers of school going children about environmental health. The mean difference between pretest and post test score was 19.36 which was statistically significant at $p < 0.01$ level and found that the child to mother approach was effective in imparting knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children.

KEYWORDS

Child to mother approach, Environmental health and Mothers of school going children.

Author for Correspondence:

P. Arivumalar,
Department of Child Health Nursing,
Kasturba Gandhi College of Nursing, Sri Balaji
Vidyapeeth, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, India.

Email: malararivu783@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION

‘Children are great imitators. So give them great to imitate’

Children are country’s biggest human investment for development. It is rather unfortunate that even after 60 years of independence our country has made little progress in improving the health condition of our school going children when compared to the developed countries.

World Health Organization (2011) stated that health is a complex phenomenon, a state of complete

physical, mental, social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. In spite of this broad definition, health is traditionally assessed by observing mortality and morbidity over a period of time. Therefore the balance between physical, mental, social wellbeing and the presence of disease become a prime indicator of health.

Rao, K. S (2013) stated that the term environment refers to all the external factors living and non-living, materials and non-materials which surrounds man. The environment consists of two main components internal and external. The external environment comprises the following 1) Physical: water, air, soil, housing, wastes, radiation, etc 2) Biologic: plant and animal life including bacteria, viruses, insects, rodents and animals. 3) Social: Customs, culture, habits, income, occupation, religion etc.

Child to mother publicity document (2010) discovered this approach and encouraged the universal practice of this teaching method in developing countries. Child to mother is a right based approach to children's participation in health promotion and development, grounded in the United Nations conversation on the rights of the child. Through participating in child to mother activities the personal, social, emotional and intellectual development of the children are enhanced.

Statement of the problem

A quasi experimental study to assess the effectiveness of child to mother approach on knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in selected schools at Trichy.

Objectives

To assess the existing level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in control group and experimental group.

To assess the effectiveness of child to mother approach on knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in experimental group.

To compare the mean post-test level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of

school going children in control group and experimental group.

To determine the association between selected demographic variables with pretest level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in experimental group.

Hypothesis

At $p < 0.05$ level of significance

H1: There was a significant difference in the level of knowledge regarding environmental health after child to mother approach among mothers of school going children in experimental group.

H2: There was a significant difference in post test level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in control group and experimental group.

H3: There was a significant association between selected demographic variables with pretest level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in experimental group.

Assumption

Child to mother approach programme is the effective method to increase awareness about environmental health and its promotion.

Increasing knowledge related to promotion of environmental health helps in preventing the disease and promotion of health.

Delimitation

The study was delimited to

6 weeks only

60 samples only

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Samples were selected by non probability convenience sampling technique and quasi experimental design was used. The researcher was initially obtained an oral consent from each student and the knowledge questionnaires were administered to each sample including demographic data without disturbing the study subject, the children were trained for the initiation of child to mother approach programme. During the first day pre assessment about the knowledge on environmental health for experimental group of children and their mother was

given using structured self administered knowledge questionnaire. On the first day health education on environmental health related information was given experimental group of children. Training was given to change agent till they were attains 100% of marks. Health education serious on environmental health was conducted through the experimental group of children to their mother, for the initiation of child to mother approach programme. On followed by fifteenth day post-test was done for experimental group of mother. In control group the pretest and posttest was conducted without intervention. The researcher was given health education after post test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the objectives of the study, the results were discussed as follows,

The first objective of the study to assess the existing level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in control group and experimental group

The result of the study showed that (53.4%) had inadequate knowledge and (41.7%) had moderately adequate knowledge and (9%) had adequate knowledge in experimental group. In control group (70%) children had inadequate knowledge and (30%) had moderately adequate knowledge.

The second objectives of the study was to assess the effectiveness of child to mother approach on knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in experimental group

In this present study, the mean post test level of knowledge (79.80) was higher than the pretest mean (51.33) and obtained t' value ($t=8.193^*$) was significant at $p<0.01$ level. Which was assessed by providing post-test knowledge questionnaire. During the period of child to mother approach mother of school going children were very interested and they asked questions and clarified their doubts. Interaction was very good. it was useful for the children and their mother to handle in their day to day life. After child to mother approach there was a significant increase in knowledge. Hypothesis H1

was accepted. The study findings were supported by Sr. Joseene (2010).

The third objective of the study was to compare the mean post test level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in control group and experimental group

The mean post-test level of knowledge (4.306) score regarding environmental health was significantly higher than the mean pretest knowledge score in mother of school going children. Who received child to mother approach than the control group post-test knowledge (1.211). The calculated 't' value was significantly higher than the table value at $p<0.01$ level. The investigator concluded that the child to mother approach was effective in improving the knowledge of mothers of school going children regarding environmental health among experimental group. The study was supported by Bold M, *et al* (2012).

The fourth objectives of the study was to determine the association between selected demographic variables with pretest level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in experimental group

The study findings revealed that there was a significant association between selected demographic variables such as income of the parents ($\chi^2=12.602$) and score of information ($\chi^2=9.49$) with pretest level of knowledge in experimental group. So the hypothesis H4 was accepted. The study finding was supported by Elavarasi, Kalaiselvi (2015).

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Among the demographic variables majority of the mothers of children 30(100%) in control group and 30(100%) in experimental group belongs to age of 9-10 years.

Majority of the sex are male 18(60%) female 12 (40%)

Majority of the fathers 18(60%) in control group and 21(70%) in experimental group were graduated.

Majority of the mothers 22(73%) in control group and 28(93.3%) in experimental group were illiterate.

Majority of the children family 19(63.3%) in control group and 23(76.70%) in experimental group were nuclear family.

Majority of the children 17(56.66%) in control group and 16 (53.3%) in experimental group. Belongs to hindu religion.

Majority of the children lives 28(93.3%) in control group and 28(93.3%) in experimental group. All most equal number of children was residing in rural area.

Majority of the children 23(76.7%) in control group and 25(83.3%) in experimental group were having family income between Rs.5000-10000/-.

Majority of the children 30(100%) in control group and 30 (100%) in experimental group lives in tiled house.

Majority of the children 18(60.0%) in control group and 16(53.3%) in experimental group had no previous knowledge of environmental health.

During pre-test level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children (50%) children had inadequate knowledge (38%) had moderately adequate knowledge and (12%) had adequate knowledge in experimental group. In control group (60%) of the children had inadequate (40%) had moderately adequate knowledge and (0%) had adequate knowledge.

During pos-test level of knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children (82.4%) children had adequate knowledge and (17.6%) children had moderately adequate knowledge in experimental group. In control group (22%) of the children had inadequate knowledge and (50%) children had moderately inadequate knowledge (28%) of the children had inadequate knowledge.

In this present study, the mean post-test knowledge (79.80%) was higher than the pretest mean (51.33%) with the standard deviation (19.36%) and the obtained 't' value (8.193) was significant at $p < 0.01$.

In this present study, the mean post-test knowledge score regarding environmental health was significantly higher (4.306) in experimental group of mothers of school going children who received child

to mother approach than (1.211) control group and the obtained 't' value (7.200) at $p < 0.01$ level.

There was no significant association between selected demographic variables with pretest level of knowledge score in control group.

There was a significant association of pretest level of knowledge scores with only selected demographic variables such as income of the parents ($\chi^2=12.60^*$) and source of information ($\chi^2=9.49$) with pre-test level of knowledge in experimental group at $p < 0.05$ level.

CONCLUSION

This study brought out the following conclusion. Promotion of healthy practices in school health service through innovative method of teaching such as play way method, child to mother approach, kinder garden learning could be effective means of communication regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors wish to express their sincere gratitude to Department of Child Health Nursing, Kasturba Gandhi College of Nursing, Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth, Puducherry, Tamilnadu, India for providing necessary facilities to carry out this research work.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Basavanhappa. Community health nursing, *Jaypee brothers Medical Publishers, New Delhi*, 3rd Edition, 2007.
2. Dutta. Pediatric nursing, *Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers (P) Ltd, New Delhi*, 2nd Edition, 2012.
3. Quasi experimental study to investigate the effectiveness of environmental sanitation programme on the people of Oredo Local Government Area in Edo State of Nigeria, *International Journal of Health and Environmental Hygiene*, 2016.

4. Marlow R. Dorthory. Text book of paediatric nursing, *Elsevier Publishers, New Delhi, 2005.*
5. Manoranjitham. Effectiveness of child to mother approach on knowledge regarding diarrhea among school going children in Melakuppam Village at Vellore, 2009.
6. www.pubmed.com.
7. www.wikipedia/environmentalhygiene.com.

Please cite this article in press as: Arivumalar P. Effectiveness of child to mother approach on knowledge regarding environmental health among mothers of school going children in selected schools at Trichy, *International Journal of Medicine and Health Profession Research*, 9(1), 2022, 15-19.