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A study to assess the knowledge regarding needs of Newborn among fathers in selected hospitals of Pune city

Jeena Khumujam and Dr. Bhagyashree Jogdeo

Abstract

Introduction: Children are future of society and mothers are guardian of that future.” First and foremost, health, safety, hygiene and nutrition for the young child is written on behalf of young children everywhere. In some community fathers are not involved for caring the Newborn because of their community and cultural traditional practices.

Research statement: A study to assess the knowledge regarding needs of Newborn among Fathers in selected hospitals of Pune city.

Objectives: 1) To assess the knowledge regarding needs of Newborn among Fathers.2) To associate the findings with selected demographic variables.

Methodology: A non-experimental research design was adopted to conduct the study. A tool of 100 samples was selected by using non-probability convenient sampling technique. Study instrument was structured questionnaire. Section I consist of demographic variables of fathers. Section II consist of 25 structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the knowledge of fathers regarding selected needs of newborn. The tool was content validated and reliability done.

Major findings of the study: 49% fathers are in the age 26 to 30 years and. 61% fathers are from Hindu religion. 75% fathers belongs with joint family. 44% fathers are working in private sector. Majority fathers having average knowledge regarding considered selected aspects of needs of newborn.

Keywords: Knowledge, need, father, Newborn

Introduction

Malnutrition continues to be an underlying cause of morbidity and mortality in children under five years of age. Children are more vulnerable to suffer from nutritional deficiencies [2]. Worldwide about 8 newborn babies die every minute. Every year more than 4 million babies die during first week of life due to inadequate care. Further reduction of newborn mortality can be accomplished by improving the quality of care provided to newborn babies. Over 130 million babies are born every year, and more than 10 million infants die before their fifth birthday, almost 8 million before their first. (WHO 2006) [3]. Around 755 000 newborn infants die of pneumonia. While some of these infections have their in early period of newborn origin. Lack of hygiene, hypothermia and inadequate feeding are important risk factors to decrease Infant mortality rate [4]. Knowledge about neonatal hygiene and nutrition practice of head of the family i.e Father need to check.

Methodology

A non-experimental research design was adopted to conduct the study. A tool of 100 samples was selected by using non-probability convenient sampling technique⁴. Study instrument was structured questionnaire using by the researcher, section I consist of demographic variables of fathers, section II consist of 25 structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the knowledge of Fathers regarding needs of Newborn. The selected aspects of Newborn i.e hygiene and nutrition. The tool was content validated by expert and translated in to local language which was again validated. The reliability value is 0.78 which is highly reliable. The collected data were analysed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Result

Table 1: description of demographic variables of the fathers n=100

S.no	Demographic Variables	f (frequency)	% (percentage)
1.	Age of father		
	21 years - 25 years	24	24
	26 years - 30 years	49	49
	31 years - above	27	27
2.	Education of father		
	Primary education	16	16
	Secondary education	32	32
	High secondary education	28	28
	Graduate	20	20
	Post graduate	4	4
3.	Occupation		
	Private	44	44
	Business	22	22
	Government	17	17
	Any other	17	17
4.	Religion		
	Hindu	61	61
	Muslim	26	26
	Christian	3	3
	Any other	10	10
5.	Type of family		
	Nuclear	23	23
	Joint	75	75
	Extended	2	2

Table no.1st depict shows that majority of the fathers are in the age 26 to 30 years and majority fathers had education till graduation, the majority fathers are working in private sector. Maximum fathers are from Hindu religion. Maximum fathers belongs with joint family.

Table 2: Description of the Father’s knowledge regarding needs of Newborn n=100

Knowledge levels	Father	
	f (frequency)	% (percentage)
Poor	10	10
Average	80	80
Good	10	10

The above table shows that majority 80% fathers having average knowledge, 10% fathers having poor knowledge and 10% parents having good knowledge on needs of newborn.

Table 3: Mean Knowledge score and Standard Deviation of parents knowledge. n=100

Group	Mean knowledge score	SD
Father (n=100)	15.62	0.39

The above table 3 shows that the mean knowledge score of fathers was 15.62 and S.D. was 0.39.

Table 4: Association of the demographic variables with the knowledge score of father’s n=100

s.no	Demographic variables	Father (n=100)		Inference
		Fisher exact test value	p	
1	Age in year	11.055	.016	Associate
2	Education	8.023	.317	Not associate
3	Religion	5.022	.468	Not associate
4	Occupation	8.732	.144	Not associate
5	Type of family	2.324	.646	Not associate

The above data depicts age in year is associated with the knowledge of fathers as per value is less than 0.05. Education, religion, occupation and types of family are not associated with the knowledge of fathers as per value is more than 0.05. A study done by Gnyawali S at tertiary level maternity Hospital of Nepal in 2016 and study reveals that age group, religion and occupation are significant associated with demographic variables as per value is less than 0.05. Education and type of family are not associated with the knowledge of fathers as per value is more than 0.05. [7]

Conclusion

Data concluded majority fathers having average knowledge on needs of newborn which shows some awareness related to needs of newborn which can reduced infant mortality rate.

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Recommendation

- The same study can be conducted in a large sample.
- The effective audio visual programme its effectiveness can be analysed.
- Anticipation of fathers in Newborn care.
- A similar study can be conducted for health personnel to identify problems, attitude and practice regarding Newborn care.

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