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A descriptive study to assess the knowledge of adults regarding human rights of persons with mental illness in selected urban areas of Pune city

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Abstract

Human rights deal with balancing the acts of an individual within the community. But with regard to person with mental problems, the privileges and their remedial right of protection against infringement and other statutory rights are also taken into consideration. The present study deals with knowledge assessment among adults regarding human rights of persons with mental illness from selected urban areas of Pune city. The objectives were to assess the knowledge level and to find the association of the findings with selected demographic variables. A quantitative approach was adopted and a descriptive design was used. The population was the adults from selected urban areas and the sample size was 400, who were selected by non-probability Purposive sampling. The tool used was semi Structured questionnaire on knowledge regarding human rights of clients with Mental illness. Reliability and pilot study was done to and the study was found feasible. The result shows that male were more than female; maximum were in the age group of 25-31years with 35percentage. most sample were educated till higher secondary. Majority were from joint family with 53.25percentage. With regard to marriage status 69 % were married. Most of the samples were of Hindu religion. In Occupation most of them were unemployed. With regard to knowledge level 74.25 % had good knowledge level with mean score of 10.45 and SD- 1.55. There is no association found between the knowledge level and demographic variables as the p-value is greater than 0.05. To conclude although the knowledge is good but the stigma related to mental illness still persists.

Keywords: Human rights of mental illness, knowledge level

Introduction

It has reported by W.H.O that 25% of population is affected by mental disabilities. One of the leading causes of ill health and disability is found to be mental illness. The stigma attached to it leads to discriminatory and unfair approach. Thus incorporation of human rights for the mental illness is of prime importance ^[1]. a person can live with dignity and peace, if he is aware of his rights and follow the societal norms. This will ensure that everyone is protected against abuses and give the opportunities to explore their potential ^[2] In the first decade of 21st century, a change in beliefs and attitudes resulted in rejection of forces and violence, leading to the recognition of Human Rights for all and its universality was recognized ^[3]. Government of India has passed both mental health act 1982 and disability act 1995. These acts deal with protection of persons with mental disorder and disability of various kinds. The hospitals with lack of basic requirements and services towards patients welfare are the main culprits of violation of rights which seen in from admission till discharge process ^[4].

In 2005 nursing adviser of government of India stressed on role of nurse in human rights and code of ethics by Indian nursing council.⁵ Researcher had observed during her community posting that peoples have lack of knowledge related to rights of mentally ill. Therefore the present study was a felt need to be conducted to increase the awareness about human rights related to mental illness.

Aim

To study the knowledge of adults regarding human rights of persons with mental illness in selected urban areas.

Objective of Study

1. To assess the level of knowledge regarding human rights of persons with mental illness among adults.

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2. To Determine Association Between Selected Demographic Variables and Knowledge Of Adults Regarding Human Rights Of Persons With Mental Illness.

Materials and Methods

Study Design: Non experimental descriptive design

Study Area: Selected urban areas of Pune City

Sample Size: 400

Sampling Technique: Non probability purposive sampling technique

Study Population: adults from selected urban areas of Pune city who met inclusion criteria

Inclusion Criteria

- Adults in the age group 19 to 45years
- Who are able to read, write English/Marathi
- Present at the time of data collection

Exclusion Criteria

- Adults with debilitating illness and can't respond to the questionnaire.
- Adults who were exposed to such type of study before.

Description of the Tool

Section I: Demographic data

Total items were 11.

It involved demographic data as -Type of family, marital status, Religion, Occupation, age gender and education etc.

The respondents were requested to place a tick mark against the appropriate boxes.

Section II: Semi structured questionnaire on knowledge regarding human rights of people with mental illness.

Total questions were 14 in numbers. These were categorized into various domains such as personal, communication, treatment and legal.

Method of Data Collection

- Researcher has obtained approval from appropriate review boards to conduct the study.
- A formal permission from concerned authorities
- Only the samples who had signed the consent form were included in the study.
- Confidentiality of the data obtained from sample was strictly maintained.

Results, Discussion and Conclusion

Section 1: Description of Sociodemographic Variables

Demographic profile of adults shows percentage of male are slightly more than female (51.75%). In age wise distribution majority were in 25-31 years (35%). Twenty nine percent of sample were educated till higher secondary, 53.25 % were belonging to joint family. 69% of the samples were married.66.75 % were Hindu. Most of the samples were unemployed.

Section-II: Findings related to knowledge regarding rights of human with mental illness among adults

Table 1: Shows that Level of knowledge and Frequency (f) Percentage (%) Mean score Standard Deviation

S. No	Level of knowledge	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	Mean score	Standard Deviation
1.	Good knowledge	297	74.25%	10.4575	1.557002
2.	Average knowledge	102	25.5%		
3.	Poor knowledge	1	0.25%		

Interpretation: Table shows that 74.25% are having good knowledge and 25.5% are having average knowledge with mean score 10.45 and Standard Deviation of 1.56.

Section III: Association of research findings with selected demographic variables.

Interpretation: Table shows that knowledge level on human rights are not significantly associated with any of the demographic variables as p value is >0.05. It means knowledge level on human rights among adults is not affected by any demographic variables.

Item/domain wise analysis of knowledge regarding human right a person with mental illness among sample

Item no	DOMAIN	STATEMENT
1	PERSONAL	Which of the following things the mentally ill persons has a right to keep with himself
2		The mentally ill persons have the right to get married with
3		A person of unsound mind has the right to vote
4		Can mentally ill person pursue his education?
5	COMMUNICATION	Letters addressed to patients should be
6		A mentally ill patient can communicate with his family members by the following medium?
7		Which of the following is not the right of the mentally ill persons
8	TREATMENT	Mentally ill patients have the right to receive treatment from
9		On identification of mentally ill patient he/she should be
10		Which one of the following is the right of the mentally ill patient before doing a procedure?
11		In which of the following condition the mentally ill person needs to be physically restrained?
12		The right to confidentiality of the mentally ill clients involves
13	LEGAL	The person of unsound mind can dispose of his property through
14		If the person in mental illness condition commits murder of his relatives, what is the solution?

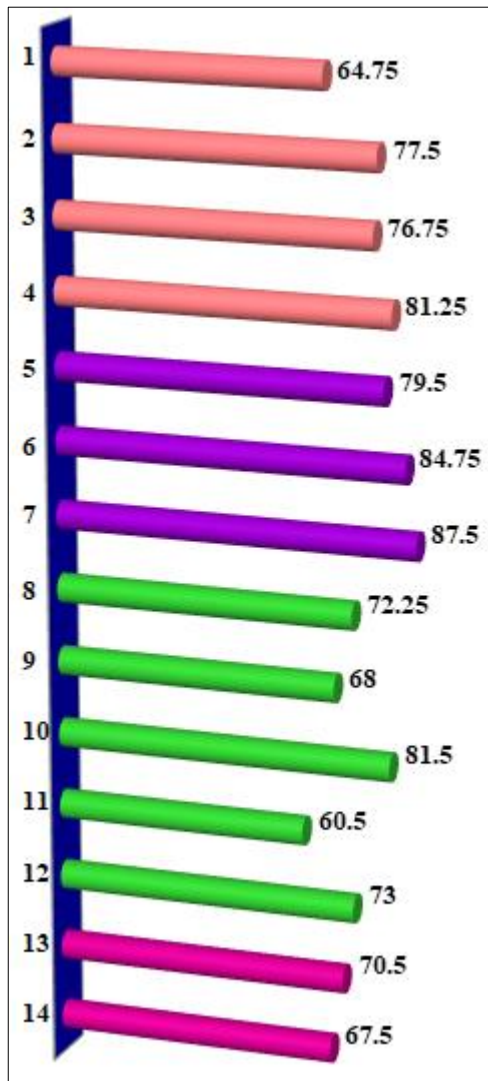


Fig 1: Shows that domains have one questions with maximum percentage related to property, letters, marriage and restrains In the legal maximum 77.5, In the treatment 87.5, In communication 81.5, In personal 73.

Discussion

Knowledge among adults about rights of human with mental illness And Association of findings of demographic variables: In the present study 74.25% are having good knowledge and 25.5% are having average knowledge. 10.45 was the mean score on the knowledge with SD 1.56 in the present study there is no association of research finding with demographic variables as p value was more than 0.05

Similarly in a study conducted by Mahesh Chendake also shows 85% of the nursing students had average knowledge and 15% had poor knowledge regarding human rights. There was no association between knowledge and demographic data.

A study in 2017 by Shalini *et al.* at moradabad shows that 1.2% adults have good knowledge, 71.2% adults have average knowledge and 27.5% adults have poor knowledge.

There was an association between the type of family, no. of family members, educational level with the knowledge at 0.05 level

A study by Praveen L *et al.* in 2018 at Kolhapur The knowledge of mental illness among adults was found 70% good knowledge, average knowledge among 16% adults, very good knowledge among 14% adults and no one with poor knowledge.

There was an association between the knowledge scores with income

Implication

Implication of study can be in field of nursing practice, nursing education, nursing administration and research.

Nursing practice

The staff working in t set up should practice human rights while dealing with mentally ill patients. They are the advocate of the patient therefore should practice these rights at every step of their nursing care.

Nursing Education

The nurses should be educated regarding human rights while dealing with mentally ill patients by conducting regularly continued nursing education and in service education the student nurses can be taught the same which is in the curriculum through role play or discussion.

Nursing Administration

The administrator plays a vital role in human rights of patients. They too should ensure that the nurses are following these rights while giving care to the patients if not necessary action should be taken and also educated for the same.

Nursing Research

The nurses should be encouraged to conduct mini research studies in the clinical areas regarding the above mentioned subject. This will improve the patient’s quality of life as well as for awareness in general population.

Recommendations

1. The study may be replicated using a larger population.
2. Similar study can be done to assess the knowledge regarding Rights of persons with mental illness
3. Study can be done using alternative method of sample selection technique.
4. Comparative study can be done between rural and urban population.
5. An experimental study can be carried out before and after the structured teaching Programme on knowledge and attitude.

Conclusion

This study concluded that there was average knowledge among the adults regarding rights of human with mental illness. There is a need to educate them regarding the same. There is need to encouraged nurses for promoting and protecting the human rights, violation of them on health advocating for patient’s rights and ethical decision makes process in clinical and community areas.

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