



ISSN (E): 2277-7695
ISSN (P): 2349-8242
NAAS Rating: 5.23
TPI 2023; SP-12(9): 268-271
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www.thepharmajournal.com
Received: 17-06-2023
Accepted: 27-07-2023

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Impact of the training programme on stitching technology among SC farm women: A comparative study

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Abstract

A study was carried out in the Hanumangarh district to determine the impact of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumangarh-I training program on the recipients' farmwomen's knowledge of and adoption of stitching technology. 75 beneficiaries of the stitching technology training organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Hanumangarh-I, as well as 75 non-beneficiaries chosen from areas not involved in the program, made up the sample of 150 responses. The findings showed that the majority of beneficiaries, or 58.67% of farmwomen, had a medium level of understanding about stitching technology, with 34.67% having a high level and 6.67% having a poor level, respectively. Farmwomen who weren't recipients, on the other hand, all had a limited understanding of stitching technology. The analysis of the adoption scores of the farmwomen who received benefits showed that, of the beneficiaries, (68.00%) had a medium level of adoption, followed by those who had a high level of adoption (29.33%) and a low level of adoption (2.67%) of stitching technologies, while all of the farmwomen who did not receive benefits had a low level of adoption. This shows that there have been considerable differences in the knowledge and use of stitching between recipients and non-beneficiaries.

Keywords: Effectiveness, knowledge, adoption

Introduction

One of the noticeable characteristics that has changed over time and will continue in the coming days is the shifting farm structure with the predominance of small landowners. Small-scale landowners Farmers who belong to India's Scheduled Castes (SCs) are one of the most victimized socioeconomic groups. Due to these restrictions, SC families are frequently more dependent on wage labor because they have the lowest land ownership rates in India. SCs experience difficulties in the farm-based and non-farm-based labor markets due to entrenched societal discrimination and current socioeconomic conditions. Therefore, the Ministry under the Scheduled Castes Development Bureau has implemented the Schedules Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP), to ensure flow of both targeted financial and physical benefits to Scheduled Castes, in order to improve the livelihood of these smallholders on a sustainable basis and enable them to participate in the development process in an equitable manner. To increase SC knowledge and proficiency The country's Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been conducting various capacity development programs, such as trainings and input distribution programs, to assist farmers in identifying and resolving technological problems in the field of agriculture and related fields. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra's serve as a center of information for farmers and other rural residents. The "skill training" and "need based training" are the two key facets of Krishi Vigyan Kendra's training programs. It aids in the knowledge, skill, and attitude development of its trainees regarding a certain sort of job in addition to providing initial training and ongoing professional development to each individual. These vocational training programs assist its trainees in creating a business and generating revenue. Additionally, it offers flexible working hours to accommodate the demands of stay-at-home moms. The majority of rural women's time is spent on unpaid tasks like caring for the family farm and other domestic duties. The majority of domestic and home tasks, including as sewing, processing and preserving fruits and vegetables, caring for children and providing for their nutritional needs, are under their purview. Numerous training programs are offered by Hanumangarh-I's Krishi Vigyan Kendra specifically for farmwomen with the goal of preparing them for a variety of tasks related to dairy farming and home science.

The curriculum was developed in response to the demands of farmwomen in the field of home science. Based on these training requirements, KVK provided farm women in the adopted areas with training in stitching technologies.

Methodology

The study was carried out in the Rajasthan state's Hanumangarh district. Sangaria and Tibbi blocks produced 75 SC farmwomen skilled in stitching technologies. In order to accurately assess the effects of the chosen training programs on the recipients, an additional 75 SC farmwomen were also chosen from Hanumangarh and Pilibanga blocks in the Hanumangarh district, which had not been included in KVK, Hanumangarh-I's coverage of such training programs. An equal number of villages were chosen for the study from each designated block. The data was gathered using the personal interview method, and the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the study's two dependent variables knowledge gain and adoption were compared between the two groups.

To examine the significance of the difference between the mean knowledge and adoption scores of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, the scores were divided into low, medium,

and high categories. Correlation and an unpaired t-test were then employed.

Results and Discussion

Effect of stitching training on recipients' farmwomen's knowledge gains: Table 1 shows the frequency distribution and mean knowledge score in relation to sewing training. Reading the table's statistics revealed that most beneficiaries (58.67%) had a medium level of stitching knowledge, whereas (34.66 and 6.67%) of recipients, respectively, had high and low levels of expertise. All of the non-beneficiaries were only moderately knowledgeable with stitching procedures. Table 1 shows that beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries had, respectively, mean knowledge scores of 28.51 and 3.79. This indicated that beneficiaries' mean scores were much higher (639.28%) than those of non-beneficiaries. Unpaired (independent samples) t-test was used to examine the significance of the difference between the mean knowledge scores of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. The estimated t-value (33.597) was determined to be highly significant at the 0.5 percent level, pointing to a sizable increase in beneficiaries' knowledge.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents on the basis of their level of knowledge related to stitching

S. N.	Knowledge level	Beneficiaries (n ₁ = 75)		Non- beneficiaries (n ₂ = 75)		Total respondents (N = 150)	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Low (<20)	5	6.67	75	100	80	53.33
2.	Medium (21-40)	44	58.67	0	0.00	44	29.33
3.	High (>40)	26	34.66	0	0.00	26	17.33
Overall Score		28.51		3.79		t-value = 33.597***	

Note: Figures given in parentheses indicate percentages.

*** Significant at 0.5 per cent level

Beneficiaries outperformed non-beneficiaries in terms of knowledge, on average, by 652.24%. In other words, beneficiaries experienced 6.5 times greater scores of knowledge increases than non-beneficiaries. The information imparted by the stitching training program may have been due to new and scientific (standardized procedure), which was not accessible to non-beneficiaries through any other

supplemental sources, which may account for the significant disparity.

From the statistics above, it is clear that training had a significant and discernible effect on beneficiaries when compared to non-beneficiaries in terms of knowledge growth regarding stitching.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents on the basis of their extent of adoption of techniques stitching

S. N.	Adoption level	Beneficiaries (n ₁ = 75)		Non- beneficiaries (n ₂ = 75)		Total respondents (N = 150)	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Low (<9)	2	2.67	75	100	77	51.33
2.	Medium (10-18)	51	68.00	0	0.00	51	34.00
3.	High (>18)	22	29.33	0	0.00	22	14.67
Overall Score		13.86		1.88		t-value = 41.943***	

Note: Figures given in parentheses indicate percentages.

*** Significant at 0.5 per cent level

In relation to the adoption of stitching techniques, the frequency and mean scores for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries were calculated and are shown in Table 2. The majority of beneficiaries (68.00%) had a medium adoption level for stitching techniques, while 29.33 had a high adoption level. This meant that no respondent had a poor adoption level for stitching techniques. All of the non-beneficiaries showed a low level of stitching technique adoption.

According to Table 2, the mean adoption scores of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries for stitching techniques were determined to be 13.86 and 1.88, respectively. At a significance level of 5%, the estimated t-value (41.943) was deemed to be highly significant. In other words, beneficiaries adopted stitching technologies at a rate 6.4 times higher than

non-beneficiaries. According to the explanation in the preceding subheading, the beneficiaries' increased knowledge gain may be the cause of the higher degree of adoption. The trainees' level of adoption and knowledge acquisition were directly correlated; as knowledge improved, so did the level of use of stitching technologies. In other words, this situation could be attributed to the non-beneficiaries' extremely low (practically zero) adoption of stitching technology. Since the material shared throughout the training program was scientific (standardized technologies), non-beneficiaries were unable to adopt them without first going through the more adaptable than older persons are well justified here, too, as far as stitching training is concerned.

Relationship between specific characteristics of beneficiaries

who are farmwomen and the effects of the sewing training program on beneficiaries: Correlation analysis was used to investigate the link under the following headings:

1. The relationship between certain qualities and knowledge growth
2. The relationship between specific features and the degree of adoption.

Correlation between certain characteristics and knowledge gain: Table 3 shows the results of an examination of the correlations between various independent factors and knowledge gain. Age, family size, family type, land ownership, herd strength, and social involvement were found to have a weak but substantial negative link with the beneficiaries' farmwomen's knowledge acquisition with regard to stitching instruction.

Table 3: Association between selected independent factors of farmwomen and gain in knowledge regarding stitching training

S.N.	Independent factors	r- value
1.	Age	-0.17638**
2.	Education	0.18946**
3.	Family size	-0.21049***
4.	Family type	-0.27992***
5.	Land holding	-0.19236**
6.	Herd strength	-0.22967***
7.	Milk production	-0.09215
8.	Social participation	-0.21142***
9.	Extension contacts	0.08039
10.	Mass media exposure	0.05983

Significant at 5 per cent level;
 Significant at 1 per cent level;
 Significant at 0.5 per cent level.

Age was found to have a weak but significant unfavorable relationship with learning about sewing instruction. It demonstrated that as people aged, their ability to learn less. As a result, younger farmwomen than older farmwomen learned more from the stitching training program. The fact that "younger people group" is more prevalent and Effects of sewing instruction on beneficiary farmwomen's adoption levels in comparison to non-beneficiaries.

Table 4: Association between selected independent factors of farmwomen and extent of adoption regarding stitching training

S.N.	Independent factors	r- value
1.	Age	-0.18063**
2.	Education	0.13426*
3.	Family size	-0.15671**
4.	Family type	-0.17093**
5.	Land holding	-0.04015
6.	Herd strength	-0.08931
7.	Milk production	0.00599
8.	Social participation	0.14841*
9.	Extension contacts	0.07531
10.	Mass media exposure	0.15842**

Significant at 5 per cent level;
 Significant at 1 per cent level;
 Significant at 0.5 per cent level.

Beneficiary farmwomen's education was found to be positively and strongly correlated with their knowledge expansion. This showed that as education levels rose, so did the amount of knowledge gained about sewing instruction. The most likely reason for this outcome is that schooling gave

them the opportunity to learn more and get more knowledge in a particular learning setting. The information in the stitching training program was presented in a way that required a foundational understanding before it could be understood. Due to this and other factors, it was discovered that education strongly predicted knowledge gained from stitching training, although SDF and MPP trainings did not. Family size, family type, and learning to sew were found to have a negative and very significant association. According to this finding, farmwomen from large families and joint families learned less through the stitching training program. In other words, the information gained from stitching training will decrease as family size increases.

Knowledge gain was found to be adversely and significantly linked with land ownership and herd size. It meant that a rise in land ownership and herd size, two independent variables, led to a decline in the amount of knowledge gained about stitching technology. This meant that the information gained would be less as land holding and herd strength increased.

Gaining knowledge about stitching technology was found to be adversely and strongly linked with social participation. It indicated that the more socially active a person was, the less knowledge they would learn. This may be because only older women participate in social activities compared to younger women. Moreover, younger educated farmwomen were needed because they had the understanding of stitching technology.

Milk output, extension contacts, and media exposure did not significantly correlate with farmwomen's increased understanding of stitching training programs. It indicated that a change in these characteristics would result in a change in knowledge acquisition, but that change might not be statistically significant.

Correlation of several characteristics with the degree of adoption: According to the correlation coefficient value shown in Table 4, the degree of adoption of the stitching training program was negatively but significantly correlated with age, family size, and family type. On the other side, it was discovered that exposure to the media, social interaction, and education all had a positive and significant link with the level of adoption. Adoption and age were found to be negatively correlated. It implied that the adoption rate would decrease the older the child was. Here, it can be deduced that the younger farmwomen tended to embrace techniques picked up through stitching programs.

The degree of adoption was shown to be strongly and favorably connected with education. This indicated that farmwomen with education had a higher propensity to adopt stitching techniques. A natural conclusion from this finding may be that adoption rates will increase with education. Family type and size had a negative, substantial link with how far adoption went in terms of stitching. The tendencies were discovered to be consistent with the knowledge gain, which has previously been discussed in the prior sub-headings. It indicated that the amount of adoption was negatively yet significantly impacted by both family size and family type. The degree of adoption was found to be positively and significantly associated to social involvement and media exposure. It suggested that the adoption would increase the more social interaction and media exposure there was. These factors were giving the farmwomen the chance to learn more, which in turn made them more likely to embrace stitching technology.

It was discovered that the extent of adoption was not

substantially connected with land ownership, herd size, milk production, or extension contact. It implied that, although at a statistically non-significant level, a change in these features would result in a change in the extent of adoption.

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Conclusion

The beneficiaries' greater knowledge gains may be responsible for their beneficiaries' higher level of knowledge and adoption of stitching technology. The beneficiaries' level of adoption and knowledge gain were directly correlated; as knowledge improved, so did the level of adoption of stitching technology. In other words, this situation could be attributed to the non-beneficiaries' extremely low (practically zero) adoption of stitching technology. Beneficiaries and trainees could not adopt the standardized technologies without participating in the training program since the material provided through the training program was scientific in nature. According to the aforementioned findings, KVK's stitching training was successful in increasing knowledge of and adoption of MPP technologies. As a result, it could be used to support the organization of additional stitching training programs that would benefit farm women specifically and the farming community as a whole.

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