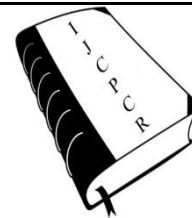




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A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING POSTNATAL CARE AMONG THE POSTNATAL MOTHERS

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ABSTRACT

The postpartum period is a crucial period for the mother. She is happy having seen the fruit of her labour but the risk of disorders also continues. After having completed an uneventful pregnancy some women remain healthy, others suffer due to various disorders. The women need care and support during this stressful phase. A sympathetic and caring attitude is of utmost importance to prevent postpartum morbidities. There is a tendency among health care providers as well as the family to be casual and indifferent to ailments during postpartum. But these seemingly minor problems can cause major morbidity and even mortality. The present study to find out the demographic variables and to assess the level of knowledge about postnatal care among postnatal mothers. A study was done among 20 samples to assess the level of knowledge regarding postal care among the postnatal mothers in government hospital, RIMS, Kadapa. Descriptive approach was selected for the study. The research design for this study was non-experimental descriptive design. Samples were selected by convenient sampling method. Structured interview questionnaire was used as evaluation tool. The samples were free to express their knowledge and ideas. Then the knowledge level was assessed and pretest evaluation was made. The data was analyzed and conclusion was drawn. The present study concluded that knowledge assessment regarding postal care among the postal mothers shows that 85% of mothers had moderately adequate and 15% had adequate knowledge. The mean and standard deviation as follows 16.75 and 1.57.

Keywords: Postpartum maternal care, morbidities, mortality.

INTRODUCTION

Postpartum maternal care is a neglected aspect of health care, all the concerns and care being concentrated on the newly arrived baby and family planning issues. The mother at this time is in need of physical and mental support from her family and her doctor because of dangers of morbidity and cost of care. In a developing country like India where malnutrition and anaemia are rampant, women are more prone to infection [1,2]. Postnatal care and extent of postpartum morbidity is poorly characterized and under-researched. There are chances of puerperal pyrexia due to infection in the genital and or urinary tract, caesarean section wound infection and breast engorgement and etc. The higher rate of complications in the postpartum period among rural, illiterate and nulliparous women may be attributed to ignorance, lack of experience, unhygienic

practices among these women in addition to malnourishment [3,4].

METHODOLOGY

Descriptive approach was selected for the study. The research design for this study was non-experimental descriptive design. 20 Samples were selected by convenient sampling method. Structured interview questionnaire was used as evaluation tool. The samples were free to express their knowledge and ideas. Then the knowledge level was assessed and pretest evaluation was made. The data was analyzed and conclusion was drawn. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the findings [5-7].

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RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Regarding the demographic variables, most of the mothers {12(60%)} in the age group of 21-25 years.

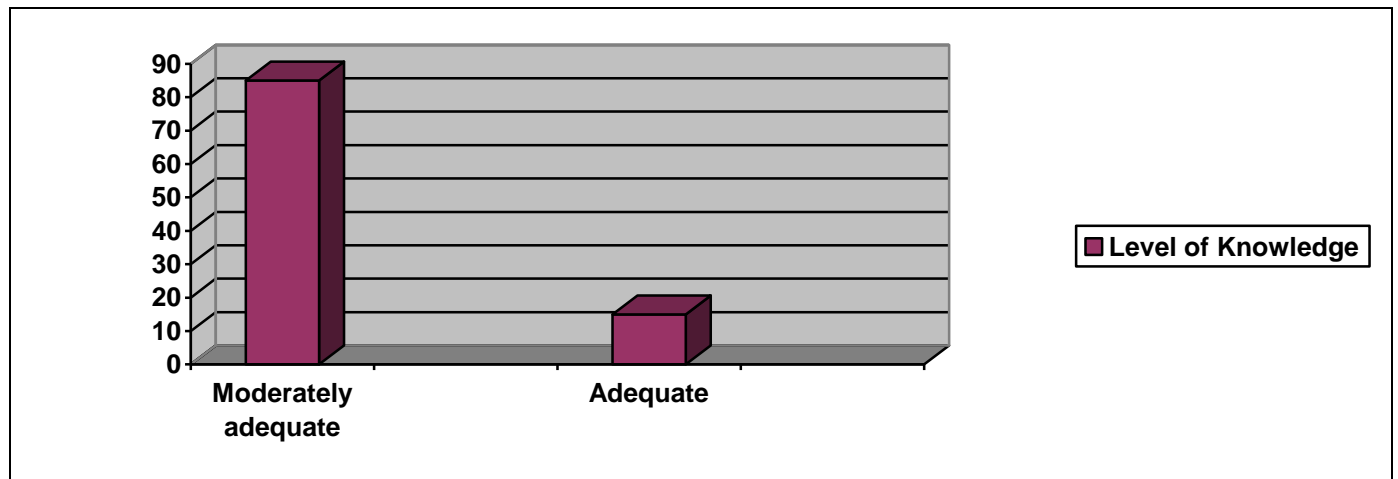
Highest number of mothers {11(55%)} had secondary education 4(20%) were illiterate, 5(25%) had primary education.

Table 1. Frequency and percentage of distribution of postnatal mothers according to their level of knowledge regarding postal care

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	S.D
Inadequate (0-50%)	0	0%		
Moderately adequate (51-75%)	17	85%	16.75%	1.57
Adequate (76-100%)	3	15%		

Table 1. shows that in the knowledge assessment regarding postal care among the postnatal mothers 85% has moderately adequate and 15% has adequate knowledge. Mean score was 16.75% and S.D was 1.57.

Fig 1. Percentage distribution of postnatal mothers according to their level of knowledge



CONCLUSION

This study reveals that among the 20 samples 17 had moderately adequate knowledge regarding postnatal care. Awareness was created among the postnatal mothers in government hospital, Kadapa regarding postnatal care. The nursing educator can use the results of study and can improve the knowledge level of others and can create

awareness regarding postnatal care among the postnatal mothers. The result of the study helps for future explores to do some qualitative studies. Recommendation: The similar study can be conducted in the rural area, Comparative study can be conducted between rural and urban area and the similar study can be replicated on large samples there by findings can be generalized.

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