

“A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF ANTENATAL CARE AMONG THE PREGNANT WOMEN SELECTED AREA IN HISAR (HARYANA)”

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ABSTRACT :

Introduction: Pregnancy and child birth are common and highly important aspects of women's life. Antenatal care is a process in which systematic assessment and follow-up of pregnant women that includes education, counselling, screening, and treatment to assure the best possible health of the mother and foetus.

Aim: The aim of study was assess the knowledge regarding antenatal care of the pregnant women selected area in Hisar (Haryana).

Materials and Methods: Descriptive research design used for this study and quantitative evaluative research approach. The sample were for this study 50 pregnant women and data were collected by (structured knowledge questionnaire) selected Non – Probability sampling method and analysed by using descriptive statistics (mean, SD) and inferential statistics (paired 't' test, and chi-square test).

Result: The sample 28(46.00%) had moderate knowledge level and Equal sample 11 (22.00%) had inadequate and adequate knowledge level.

Conclusion: The association found between antenatal knowledge and demographic variables (parity, previous knowledge and source of information) and other demographic variables had not associated.

Key words: Assess descriptive, knowledge, antenatal care, and pregnant women.

INTRODUCTION: Antenatal care (ANC) is a careful, systematic assessment and follows up of pregnant a woman that includes education, counselling, screening and treatment to assure the best possible health of the mother and foetus. ^[1]Every year about 6 million women become pregnant; 5 million of these pregnancies lead to the birth of the child. An adequate use of antenatal health services is associated with improved maternal and neonatal health status. Pregnancy care expected to affect the development of the foetus and the baby as well as the mother. Early booking and regular visitation of antenatal care can only achieve this. ^[2]Antenatal care refers to pregnancy related health care provided by a doctor or a health worker in medical facility or at home. Antenatal care should monitor a pregnancy for signs of complication detect and treat pre-existing and concurrent problems of pregnancy. It should also

provide advice and counselling or preventive care, diet during pregnancy, delivery care, postnatal care and related issues. An antenatal care is necessary for ensuring a healthy mother and baby at the end of gestation. The antenatal period is a time of physical and psychological preparation of birth and parenthood. Becoming a parent is a time of intense learning both for parents and for those close to them. ^[3]Appropriate antenatal care (ANC) is one of the pillars of this initiative. It highlights the care of antenatal mothers as an important element in maternal healthcare as appropriate care will lead to successful pregnancy outcome and healthy babies. Improving maternal health is one of the eight-millennium development goals (MDGs). Under MDG5, countries committed to reducing maternal mortality by three-quarters between 1990 and 2015. Since 1990, maternal deaths worldwide

have dropped by 47%.^[4] Globally, over 30,000 women die each year during pregnancy and childbirth. Predominantly as a result of pregnancy and birth-related complications.^[5] Women die as a result of complications during and following pregnancy and childbirth. Most of these complications develop during pregnancy and most are preventable or treatable. Other complications may exist before pregnancy but are worsened during pregnancy, especially if not managed as part of the woman's care. The major complications that account for nearly 75% of all maternal deaths.^[6] Pregnancy involves a vulnerability that put women at risk of dying, and India is one of many countries who record a high amount of pregnancy-related deaths of women each year.^[7] 2014, India was recognized to have contributed one-fifth of the global burden of absolute maternal deaths, while experiencing an estimated 4.7% decline in its Maternal Mortality Ratio which stood at 174 per 100,000 live births in India.^[8]

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY:

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding antenatal care among pregnant women.
- To find out the association between knowledge regarding antenatal care among pregnant women with selected socio-demographic variables.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- Pregnant women may be cooperative and willing to participate in the study.
- Pregnant women may have inadequate knowledge regarding antenatal care.

DELIMITATION:

- The study was delimited to sample size of 50.
- Study delimited was done in selected area Hisar (Haryana).

RESEARCH HYPOTHESES:

H1 There will be significant association between level of knowledge on antenatal care among

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

- Literature related to assess knowledge regarding Antenatal care.
- Literature related to problems of Antenatal women.
- Literature related to physiological changes during pregnancy.

METHODOLOGY:

- **Research approach:** Non-experimental approach.
- **Research design:** Descriptive design will be adopted for this study.
- **Research Variable:** Knowledge about Antenatal care of pregnant Women's.
- **Setting of the study:** Selected rural area of Hisar district of Haryana.
- **Population:** Ante-natal women's Selected area Hisar of Haryana.
- **Sample:** Ante-natal women's who fulfil the inclusion criteria will be considered as a sample.
- **Sample size:** Sample size consists of 50 Antenatal women's area Hisar of Haryana.
- **Sampling Technique:** NonProbability sampling technique had been used for selection of the subject.

RESULTS & INTERPRETATION:

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Samples level of knowledge about Antenatal care.

(n = 50)

S. No	Level of Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Inadequate	11	22.00
2.	Moderate	28	46.00
3.	Adequate	11	22.00

The above table shows the level of knowledge regarding to antenatal care.

association between knowledge regarding antenatal care and selected demographic variables.

Samples demographic variables were having association with antenatal knowledge were parity, previous knowledge and source of information. Other demographic variables were not associated.

NURSING IMPLICATIONS:

Nursing education

The nurses can play a key role in educating people regarding ante-natal care among ante-natal women to students in Hospitals and schools. Increasing awareness and understanding of the phenomena among the general population will result in high level of antenatal care among ante-natal women and that will spontaneously reduce the morbidity of children due to problems of lack of knowledge regarding ante-natal care. The investigator as a nurse felt the need that nurses should act as facilitators to educate antenatal women, teachers, and general population regarding ante-natal care.

Nursing research

Nurses being the largest group in health care delivery system should take initiative to conduct further research studies in antenatal care among ante-natal women. The study will motivate the beginning researcher to conduct same study with different variables on a large scale considering individual aspects. The findings of the present study are helpful for the nursing professionals and nursing teachers to conduct further studies to find out the effectiveness of various methods of providing education on improving the knowledge regarding ante-natal care.

Nursing administration

Nurse administrator should take interest in motivating the nursing personnel to improve their professional knowledge and skill by attending the workshops, conferences, seminars on ante-natal care. Nurse administrator should arrange regular in-service education program to the health care workers for gaining knowledge. The nurse administrators should explore their potentials and encourage innovative ideas in the ante-natal care among ante-natal women.

Nursing practice

Nurse owes a great responsibility in educating the women regarding ante-natal care. Nurses by getting knowledge and impact into their clinical practice. Many nurses can conduct evidence base nursing practice by referring to these results. Nurses can use to

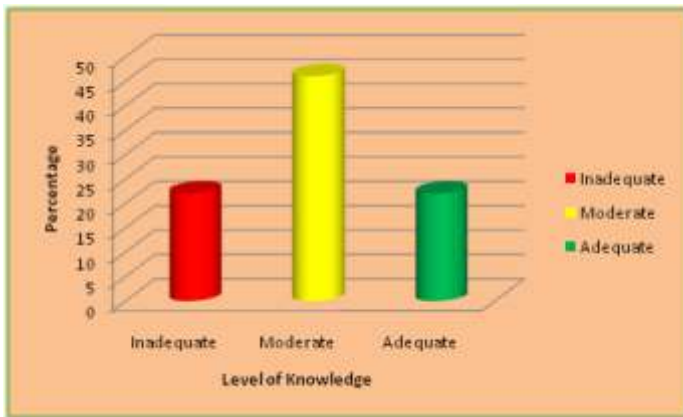


Figure 1: Level of knowledge regarding antenatal care

Table 2: Association between knowledge regarding antenatal care and demographic variables

(n = 50)

S.No	Demographic Variables	Level			Chi-Square	'P' Level
		Inadequate	Moderate	Adequate		
1	Age (Years)				0.380	0.984
	a. 20 - 25	7	18	6		
	b. 26 - 30	3	8	4		
	c. 31 - 40	1	2	1		
2.	Religion				5.804	0.445
	a. Hindu	8	18	10		
	b. Muslim	2	3	0		
	c. Christian	0	4	0		
	d. Sikhs	1	3	1		
4.	Educational Status				6.707	0.152
	a. Illiterate	0	1	2		
	b. Primary	5	11	1		
	c. Secondary	6	16	8		
5.	Occupational Status				0.208	0.902
	a. Home maker	7	16	6		
	b. Daily Wage Worker	4	12	5		
6.	Family Income				4.289	0.117
	a. 5000 - 10000	5	4	3		
	b. 10001 - 15000	6	24	8		
7.	Husband Education				2.157	0.707
	a. Illiterate	1	2	0		
	b. Primary	4	14	4		
	c. Secondary	6	12	7		
8.	Husband Occupation				1.865	0.761
	a. Agricultur e	5	11	3		
	b. Dailywage worker	3	12	6		
	c. Govt job	3	5	2		
9.	Parity (Child birth)				22.098 *	0.000
	a. 1	0	15	11		
	b. 2	11	13	0		
10.	Previous Knowledge regarding Antenatal Care				22.098 *	0.000
	a. Yes	0	15	11		
	b. No	11	13	0		
11.	If Yes, from where you got the information?				25.415 *	0.01
	a. News Paper	11	13	0		
	b. Television	0	1	0		
	c. Health Personal	0	7	3		
	d. Radio	0	4	5		
	e. No information source	0	3	3		

assess the level of knowledge regarding ante-natal care in clinical as well as in Hospital settings that will play a vital role in reducing the morbidity due to lack of knowledge regarding ante-natal care.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

On the basis of findings following recommendations are offered for further research:

- A similar study can be conducted in large sample in different areas.
- A comparative study can be conducted in different setting like Hospitals.
- A video teaching programme can be conducted in large scale to the ante-natal women of selected rural area hisar in Haryana to improve ante-natal care.

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