

“Knowledge Regarding Antenatal Investigations Among Primigravida Attending Antenatal Clinics”

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Abstract

Antenatal care knowledge proves to be vital in accessing antenatal care and improves in the health care seeking behaviour of antenatal women. **Aim:** To assess the knowledge regarding antenatal investigation among primigravida. **Setting & Design:** Study was done in antenatal clinics of selected hospital & the design adopted for this study was Non experimental descriptive design.

Materials & Methods: A total of 100 participants were selected for the study using a non probability purposive sampling method. A set of questionnaire which was based on knowledge regarding antenatal investigations was constructed and reliability score achieved was 0.8 **Results:** Results revealed that 49% samples had average knowledge regarding antenatal investigation, 47% had poor knowledge, whereas only 4% had good knowledge. The means score was 7.99 with SD ± 2.54 . **Conclusion:** There is a statistically significant relationship between Primigravida mother's age and the number of prenatal appointments, which reveals that more the number of visits the more exposure to knowledge could be conclusive.

Keywords: Knowledge, antenatal investigations, Primigravida .

Introduction:

Pregnancy is one of the essential lives of women. According to UNICEF Antenatal care is necessary for protecting the mother's health and baby. The investigation detects the health problem in growing period of the fetus. WHO recommended that to reduce perinatal mortality & to progress mothers' understanding of care. There are maternal and newborn conditions such as Malaria, HIV/AIDS, anaemia, and malnutrition are all linked to higher mortality in areas where they are prevalent. Antenatal screening will reassure them that their baby's chances of having issues are slim. Prenatal moms should be properly instructed and guided before completing each test. Inappropriate physical preparation can lead to incorrect urine culture, glucose challenge test, glucose tolerance test, and thyroid stimulating hormone findings (TSH). According to research, most expectant moms take prenatal tests without understanding their significance. (2)

It is important stage becoming a mother in every woman's life. The most changed period for women is their growth into pregnancy and delivering period. Though pregnancy is wonderful and very joyful news in most women's lives, on the same part the women will have emotional disturbances towards the physical changes in her and the process of childbirth.(3)

The researcher noticed numerous Primi pregnant women attending the hospital's prenatal clinic. The mothers had many concerns about the necessity for prenatal testing, its purpose, scheduling, and preparations. Thus, the researcher believes it is vital to measure the knowledge of primi mothers attending prenatal clinics.

Therefore a study was undertaken to assess the knowledge regarding antenatal investigations among primigravida attending antenatal clinics of selected hospitals. The objectives of the study were to assess the knowledge regarding antenatal investigation among primi-gravida, & to associate the findings with selected demographic variables. The study also led with an assumption that Primigravida attending antenatal clinics of selected hospital may have knowledge regarding antenatal investigations.

Materials & Methods: The research design adopted for this study is Non experimental descriptive design, the variable under study was knowledge regarding antenatal investigations. Setting of the study was antenatal clinics of selected hospitals, with the population of interest being target population i.e. primi gravida mothers of selected city. Sampling selection criteria was Primigravida mothers who were in the 1st trimester, who could read or understand Marathi or English and those who are willing to participate in the study. Those Primigravida's who were diagnosed as high risk were excluded from the study. A total of 100 samples were recruited for the study and the sample selection technique utilized for the study was non probability purposive sampling.

Development of tool:

The present study aimed to assess the knowledge regarding antenatal investigations among prime gravida attending antenatal clinics of selected hospitals for which a tool was constructed. It consisted of two sections, first section was demographic data which included questions on age, education, occupation, obstetrical score, previous knowledge regarding antenatal investigations, whether registered for antenatal care and number of antenatal visits. Section two consisted of knowledge based questionnaire which covered areas on antenatal care such as investigations, number of visits, assessing for vital parameters, urine examination, USG etc. Total 20 questions were formulated where each correct answer was scored as "1" and each wrong answer was scored as "zero". The scoring of knowledge was done as Poor Knowledge: 0-7, Average knowledge: 8-13, Good Knowledge: 14- 20. The tool was validated by experts and the reliability of the questionnaire was calculated by "Karl Pearson correlation coefficient" formula which was **0.8**

Ethical consideration: The study was approved by the Institutional Research Committee members. Written permission for conducting the study was obtained, the investigator introduced himself and informed the participants about the study's aim. The duration was 5 min for each participant for data collection. All participants were informed about the study. Informed consent was received from the participants.

Results:

The present study findings showed that demographic variables under study according to age majority 66% sample were from 24-29 years of age group. Education status revealed that majority 61% were educated upto primary level. According to occupation majority 55% were homemakers, Obstetrical Score revealed majority 91% were primigravida. Previous Knowledge showed all participants had previous knowledge regarding antenatal investigations, and all the participants had registered for antenatal check-up. Data related to number of antenatal visits majority 69% visited 3 times, 23% visited 2 times and 8% visited one time.

Section-II:

Findings related to the knowledge regarding antenatal investigation among primi-gravida revealed that 49% sample were having average knowledge, 47% samples had poor knowledge, whereas only 4% had good knowledge. The mean knowledge score was 7.99 with SD ± 2.54 .

Table1. Knowledge regarding antenatal investigation among primigravida

Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Poor knowledge	47	47	7.99	2.54
Average knowledge	49	49		
Good knowledge	4	4		

Table shows that knowledge regarding antenatal investigation among primi-gravida is around equal percentage as 49% sample are having average knowledge, 47% sample are having poor knowledge and 4% are having good knowledge. Knowledge means score is 7.99 with SD ± 2.54 .

Section-III: Association between knowledge scores with selected demographic variables of under study

Table2. Association between knowledge scores with selected demographic variables of under study

Demographic variables	Poor	Average	Good	DF	chi table	chi calculated	P value	Remark
1. Age (in years)								
a. 18-23	16	10	0	6	12.5 9	27.81	0.0001	S
b. 24-29	26	39	1					
c. 30-35	5	0	3					
d. 35 and above	0	0	0					
2. Education								
a. Primary	31	30	0	8	15.5	7.42	0.49	NS
b. Secondary	16	15	4					
c. Higher Secondary	0	4	0					
d. Graduate	0	0	0					
e. Post Graduate	0	0	0					
3. Occupation								
a. Homemaker	25	26	4	6	12.5 9	11.23	0.08	NS
a. Labourer	11	12	0					
b. Private	10	3	0					
c. Government	1	8	0					
4. Obstetrical Score								
a. PrimiGravida	42	45	4	2	5.99	0.23	0.89	NS
b. History of previous Abortion	5	4	0					
5. Previous Knowledge regarding antenatal investigations								
a. Yes	47	49	4	2	5.99	0	1	NS
b. No	0	0	0					
6. Antenatal Visit								
a. Yes	47	49	4	2	5.99	0	1	NS
b. No	0	0	0					
7. Number of antenatal Visit								
a. 1	0	8	0	4	9.48	14.41	0.006	S
b. 2	18	4	1					
c. 3	29	37	3					

Table depicts that there is no association of knowledge with education, occupation, obstetrical score, previous Knowledge regarding antenatal investigations and registration for antenatal check-up. However there is a statistically significant relationship between primi-age grávida's and the number of prenatal.

Discussion:

The purpose of the present study was to assess the knowledge regarding antenatal investigations among primigrávida attending antenatal clinics of selected hospital.

Findings related to knowledge regarding antenatal investigation among primi-grávida revealed that 49% sample were having average knowledge, 47% sample were having poor knowledge and 4% were having good knowledge. Knowledge means score was 7.99 with SD ± 2.54 . Association between knowledge scores with selected demographic variables of under study findings showed that there was no association with education, occupation, obstetrical score, previous Knowledge regarding antenatal investigations and registration for antenatal check-up, but there is significant association between age and number of antenatal visits with Knowledge.

Limitations

1. The study was limited to primigrávida only.
2. The study was limited to 100 samples not covering to all antenatal clinics of Pune city.
3. Analysis of the study will be based purely on the basis of responses given by the primigrávida
4. The study was limited to the experience level of the researchers.

Conclusion:

The investigator wishes to suggest additional research based on the study's findings. Replicated using larger population of primigrávida. Study can be conducted on other primigrávida as the sample and findings may be observed. The findings utilized to take up relevant research on various aspects of antenatal education, diet, birth preparedness, family planning etc.

Conflicts of interest:

There are no conflicts of interest.

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