A Study To Assess The Knowledge Regarding Prevention Of Minor Accidents In Children Among Mothers Residing In Adgaon Village, Nashik.

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Abstract

Background: Minor accidents such as falls, burns, cuts and poisoning are common among children and can lead to significant morbidity. Mothers play a vital role in preventing such accidents through appropriate knowledge and safety practices.

Objectives: To assess the knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children among mothers and to determine the association between knowledge levels and selected demographic variables.

Methods: A quantitative research approach with a non-experimental descriptive research design was adopted. The study was conducted among 60 mothers residing in Adgaon village, Nashik, using purposive sampling technique. Data were collected using a structured knowledge questionnaire on prevention of minor accidents in children.

Results: The findings revealed that 62% of mothers had good knowledge, 25% had average knowledge, and 13% had poor knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children. Chi-square analysis showed no statistically significant association between knowledge levels and selected demographic variables.

Conclusion: The study concluded that although most mothers had adequate knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children, continuous health education is essential to further strengthen preventive practices and ensure child safety.

Keywords: *Minor accidents, Children, Mothers, Accident prevention, Community health nursing.*

Introduction

Children are vulnerable to minor accidents due to their developmental stage, curiosity and lack of awareness about hazards. Minor accidents such as falls, burns, cuts and poisoning frequently occur in home environments. These accidents can lead to physical injury, emotional trauma and financial burden to families. Mothers, being primary caregivers, play a vital role in preventing such accidents through supervision and safety practices. Assessing maternal knowledge is essential for planning preventive strategies and health education programs.

Statement of the Problem

A study to assess the knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children among mothers residing in Adgaon village, Nashik.

Objectives of the Study

1. To assess the knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children among mothers.

2. To determine the association between the knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children among mothers and selected demographic variables.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. **H₀:** There will be no significant association between the knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children among mothers and selected demographic variables.
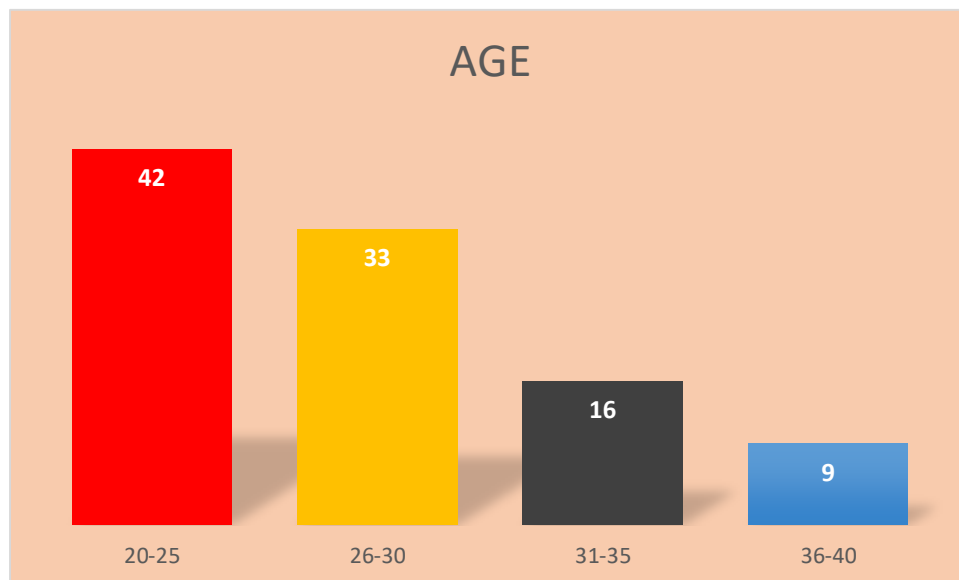
Research Methodology

A quantitative research approach, non-experimental descriptive research design was adopted for the study. The study was conducted among mothers residing in Adgaon village, Nashik. A total of 60 mothers were selected using purposive sampling technique. Data were collected using a structured knowledge questionnaire related to prevention of minor accidents in children, including falls, burns, cuts and poisoning. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis.
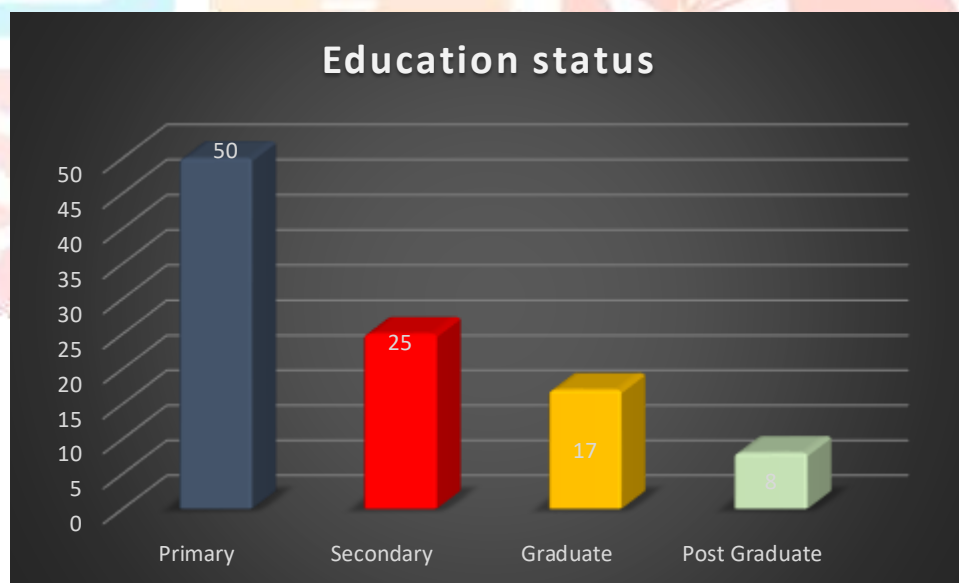
Results

The results are presented under three sections.

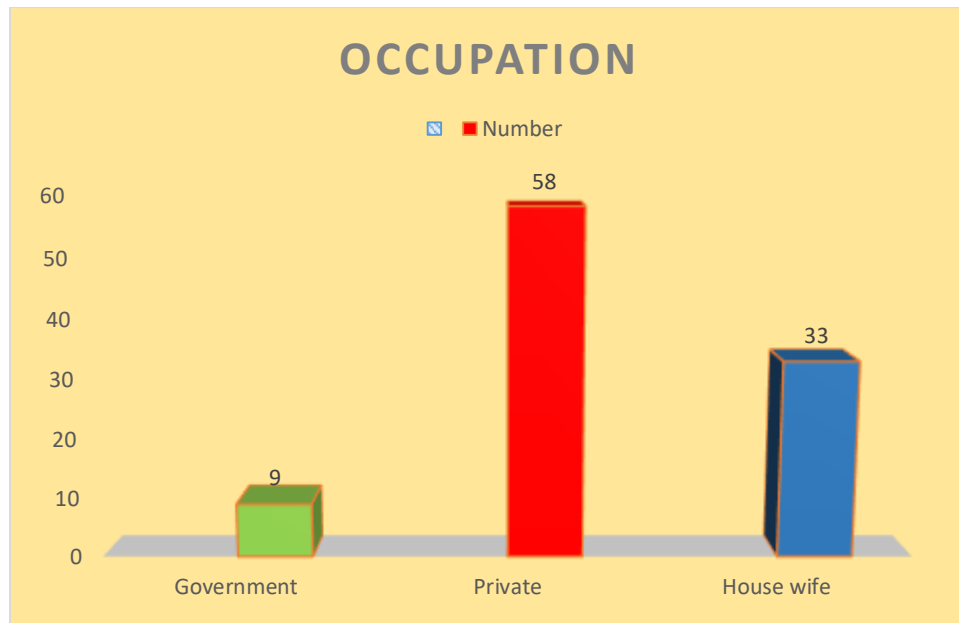**Section I: Description of Socio-Demographic Variables of Mothers**

The age-wise distribution showed that 42% of mothers were aged 20–25 years, followed by 33% in the age group of 26–30 years. Regarding education, 50% had primary education, 25% secondary education, 16.66% were graduates and 8.33% were postgraduates. Majority of mothers (58%) were housewives. Most families (83.33%) depended on the husband's income. About 41.66% of families had a monthly income above ₹15,000. All mothers were married. Majority belonged to Hindu religion (83.33%). Half of the mothers lived in joint families. About 33.33% had two children and 33.33% had three children. Friends were the major source of information (50%).

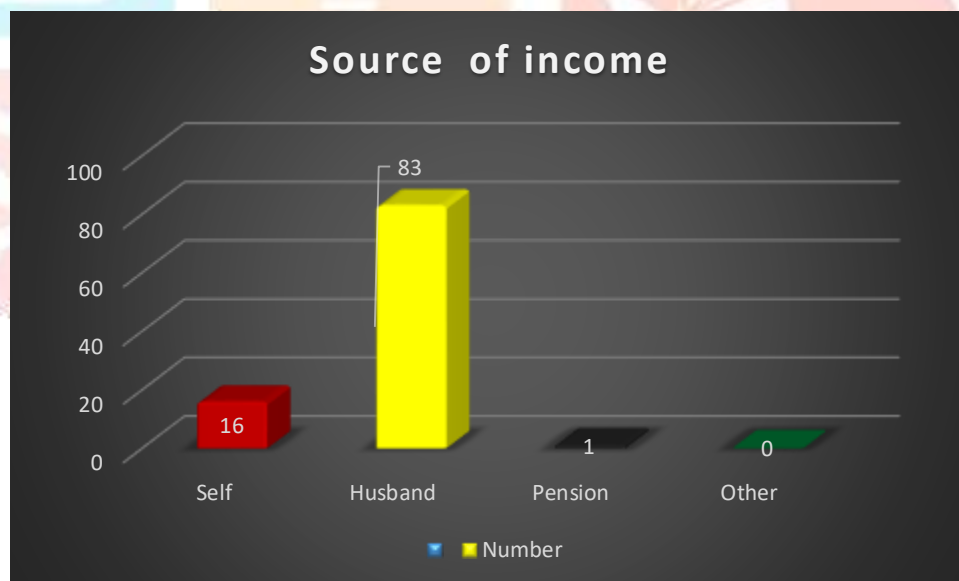**Fig I: Bar Graph showing description of sample according to age group.**

Percentage wise distribution of women according to their age depicts that the highest percentage (42%) were in the age group of a 20 -25 years. Among the samples (33%) of them were in the age group of 26-30 years (16%) of them of them were in the age group of 31-35 years and (9%) were in the age group of 36-40 years. Hence it can be interpreted that the majority of women under the study belong to 20-25 year.

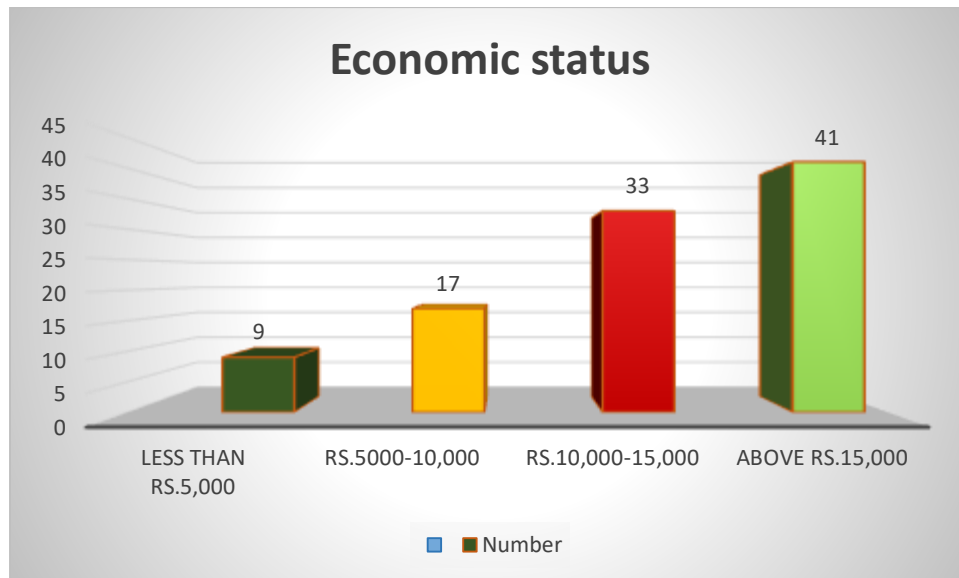**Fig II: Bar graph showing distribution of sample according to their educational status.**

Percentage wise distribution of samples, according to their education shows that highest percentage (50%) of people were primary educated, (25%) of mother were secondary educated, (16.6%) of mother were graduated (8.33%) of mother were post graduated. Hence it can be interpreted that maximum was primary educated.

Fig III: Bar graph showing distribution of sample according their occupation.

Percentage wise distribution, according their occupation shows that highest percentage (58%) mother were engaged as a house wife, (33%) were engaged in private sector, (9%) were engaged in government work. Lowest number of samples were housewives. Hence it can be estimated that majority of sample were engaged as a house wife.

Fig IV: Bar graph showing source of income

Percentage wise distribution show about the family source of income (83.33%) of the sample were having the husband, (16.66%) were having the self, (0%) of the sample were having the pension, (0%) were having the other source.

Fig V: Bar graph showing economic status of family.

Percentage wise distribution show about family per capita income, (41.66%) of the sample were having the income of Rs. above 15,000/-, (33.33%) of the sample were having the income Rs.10, 000-15,000/-, And (16.66%) were having income Rs. 5,000-10, 000/-.Only (8.333%) of the sample having per capita income is less than Rs.5,000. It shows the most of the patient were from the middle family.

Section II: Knowledge Level of Mothers Regarding Prevention of Minor Accidents in Children

The assessment of knowledge revealed that 62% of mothers had good knowledge, 25% had average knowledge and 13% had poor knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children. This indicates that although most mothers had adequate knowledge, a significant proportion still required further awareness.

Section III: Association Between Knowledge Level and Selected Demographic Variables

Chi-square test was used to determine the association between knowledge level and selected demographic variables. The calculated chi-square values were less than the table value ($\chi^2 = 3.84$ at df = 1, p > 0.05) for all variables. Hence, no statistically significant association was found, and the null hypothesis was accepted.

Sr No.	Variables	X^2	Level of significant
1	Age	0.80	Not significant
2	Education	2.75	Not significant
3	Occupation	1.03	Not significant
4	Source of income	1.34	Not significant
5	Economic status	2.78	Not significant
6	Marital status	1.65	Not significant
7	Religion	2.69	Not significant
8	Type of family	2.07	Not significant
9	Total no of children	1.69	Not significant

10	Source of knowledge	1.09	Not significant

Discussion

The findings of the study indicate that maternal knowledge plays an important role in prevention of minor accidents among children. Similar findings were reported in previous studies, which highlighted that lack of awareness contributes to increased incidence of childhood accidents. Although most mothers had good knowledge, continuous health education is required to strengthen preventive practices.

Conclusion

The study concluded that mothers residing in Adgaon village, Nashik had varying levels of knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children. There was no significant association between knowledge level and selected demographic variables. Health education programs at the community level can help improve maternal knowledge and promote child safety.

Recommendations

1. Similar studies can be conducted with a larger sample size.
2. Health education programs should be organized for mothers in the community.
3. Comparative studies can be conducted between rural and urban mothers.

Limitations

- The study was limited to a small sample size.
- The study was conducted in a single village.

References

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