



***Assess the Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Child Abuse and its Prevention Among Family Members of the Child Who Are Attending Mamata General Hospital Outpatient Department, Khammam, Telangana***

G. Asha Kumari\*

Department of Mental Health (Psychiatric) Nursing, Mamata College of Nursing, Telangana, India

Article info

Received 01 January 2022

Revised 15 February 2022

Available Online 25 February 2022

\*Corresponding author: Dr. G. Asha Kumari, Department of Mental Health (Psychiatric) Nursing, Mamata College Of Nursing, Telangana, India.

**Abstract**

*A study to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding Child Abuse and its prevention among family members of the child who are attending Mamata General Hospital Outpatient Department, Khammam, Telangana, with a view to develop an information booklet on Child abuse and its prevention. Objectives were to describe the socio-demographic variables of family members, to assess the levels of knowledge and attitude scores regarding Child Abuse and its prevention among family members, to find out the association between knowledge and attitude scores of family members with their selected socio-demographic variables, to develop and distribute an information booklet regarding Child Abuse and its prevention to family members*

**Methodology:** *A quantitative survey approach and Descriptive research design was used for this study. The study was conducted at Mamata General Hospital Outpatient Department, Khammam, Telangana. The sample comprised of 50 family members of the child age group between 21-50 years and sample was selected by Non-probability - Convenience Sampling Technique. The data was collected by Interview technique and tool used for the study was structured interview schedule.*

**Results:** *The study findings shows that majority of family members levels of knowledge regarding child abuse among 50, Majority of them 37(74%) had adequate knowledge, 13(26%) had moderately adequate knowledge and none of them had an inadequate knowledge. The study findings shows that attitude scores regarding child abuse among 50 family members, all of them had a favorable attitude 50(100%) and none of them had an unfavorable and moderately favorable attitude. Chi square is not applicable for association between knowledge, attitude scores and selected socio demographic variables as the expected values are less than 5 at p value < 0.05 level. Hence only proportions are calculated*

**Conclusion:** *The study concluded that majority of the family members had adequate knowledge and all of them had a favorable attitude but some of them had moderately adequate knowledge levels, which indicates that still there is a need to increase the knowledge levels of family members regarding child abuse and its prevention.*

**Keywords:** *Child abuse; Prevention; Rural area; Urban area; Knowledge; Attitude*

## Introduction

Children constitute foundation of a Nation. Healthy kids develop to grow to be wholesome adults with most effective bodily electricity and emotional poise to grow to be beneficial individuals of our society and make contributions efficaciously in Nation constructing process. Childhood duration need to be a carefree time of lifestyles full of love, with new worlds to explore, and with pleasure of mastery of 1 self and the environment. For many kids that is a dream now no longer the reality [1].

Children are in want of safety the maximum because of their characteristics. For this reason, many National and International rules had been made for you to make certain that kids are blanketed at a excessive level. However, notwithstanding many arrangements, forget about and abuse instances are more and more turning into a critical fitness trouble withinside the international and in our country [2].

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines a maltreatment closer to a infant as “any bodily and/or emotional maltreatment which could clearly or doubtlessly cause a poor effect on the kid’s lifestyles, boom and improvement; all sorts of attitudes and behaviors along with sexual abuse, negligence / negligent attitude, business or different exploits in the scope of kinship, responsibility, energy or believe dating with the kid [3].

There are many elements withinside the etiology of infant forgets about and abuse. Parents’ low training level, mother’s younger age, mother and father’ absence, mother and father with forget about, abuse stories, mother and father with psychiatric disturbances, low socio-financial level, substance dependence of mother and father, undesirable being pregnant and having a stepfather or mother are amongst those elements [4].

Physical abuse is a Intentional use of bodily pressure in opposition to the kid that outcomes in or has a excessive probability of ensuing in – damage for the kid's fitness, survival, improvement or dignity. This consists of hitting, beating, kicking, shaking, biting, strangling, burning, poisoning and suffocating. Much bodily violence in opposition to kids withinside the domestic is inflicted with the item of punishing [5].

Child sexual abuse wherein a grownup or older adolescent abuses a infant for sexual stimulation [6].

Forms of Child sexual abuse encompass asking or pressuring a infant to interact in sexual activities, indecent publicity of the genitals to a infant, showing pornography to a infant, bodily touch with the kid's genitals, viewing of the kid's genitalia without bodily

touch, or the usage of a infant to supply infant pornography [7,8].

Child Psychological Abuse is a "nonaccidental verbal or symbolic acts through a infant's determine or caregiver that end result a substantial mental damage to the kid [9].

Child forget about abuse is a failure to offer wanted food, clothing, shelter, clinical care, or supervision to the diploma that the kid's fitness, protection or well-being can be threatened with damage. Neglect is likewise a loss of interest from the human beings surrounding a infant, and the non-provision of the applicable and ok requirements for the kid's survival, which might be a loss of interest, love, and nurturing [10].

Child abuse can bring about on the spot negative bodily consequences however it's also strongly related to developmental troubles and with many continual bodily and mental consequences [11].

A quantity of remedies is to be had to sufferers of infant abuse. However, kids who enjoy youth trauma do now no longer heal from abuse easily. Parent–infant interplay remedy beneficial to enhance the kid-determine dating. School-primarily based totally packages have additionally been evolved to deal with kids who're survivors of abuse. This method teaches kids, mother and father, teachers, and different college body of workers a way to pick out the symptoms and symptoms of infant maltreatment in addition to talents that may be beneficial in stopping infant maltreatment. Other styles of remedy encompass institution remedy, play remedy, and artwork remedy. Play remedy and artwork remedy are methods to get kids greater cushty with remedy through operating on something that they enjoy (coloring, drawing, painting, etc.) [12].

## Need for the study

Violence towards kids consists of all varieties of violence towards human beings beneath 18 years old, whether or not perpetrated through mother and father or different caregivers, friends, romantic partners, or strangers [12].

WHO record 2020 display that almost three in four kids or three hundred million kids elderly 2-four years often go through bodily punishment and/or mental violence on the palms of mother and father and caregivers, and 1 in five ladies and 1 in thirteen guys record having been sexually abused as a infant. a hundred and twenty million ladies and younger ladies beneath two decades of age have suffered a few shape of compelled sexual contact [12].

WHO record 2020 states that Globally, it's miles predicted that up to one billion kids elderly 2–17 years, have skilled bodily, sexual, or emotional violence or forget about withinside the beyond year. thirteen In 2019 UNESCO record unearths that globally, 32% of college students elderly 11–15 years were bullied through their friends at faculty at the least as soon as withinside the ultimate month. Thirteen Middle-profits international locations the superiority of infant abuse ranged from 8% to 31% in ladies and three% to 17% in boys elderly beneath 18 years [14].

Somya Agarwal performed a studies on infant abuse in India throughout thirteen states of the USA, shows out of each 3 kids had been bodily abused, 69% kids bodily abused, 88.6% had been bodily abused through mother and father, 53.22% kids mentioned one or greater varieties of sexual abuse, 21.90% infant respondents mentioned dealing with extreme varieties of sexual abuse, 50 makes use of are men and women recognized to the kid or in a role of believe and responsibility. Emotional Abuse Every 2nd infant mentioned dealing with emotional abuse, in 83% of the instances mother and father had been the abusers. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar and Delhi have nearly constantly mentioned better charges of abuse [15]. The Hindu paper Hyderabad 2016 through N. Rahul record that Telangana became nearly on par with Andhra Pradesh while it got here to violence and sexual abuse towards kids became 1,930 and 2,059 respectively [16]. Parents and own circle of relative's participants have very critical roles on this context. Many procedures to prevention of infant abuse were proposed, however the effectiveness of a lot of them has now no longer been mounted through studies. Parents and own circle of relative's participants recognition on infant abuse and parenting method may be very an awful lot vital for the kid to develop in a higher manner. The lack of

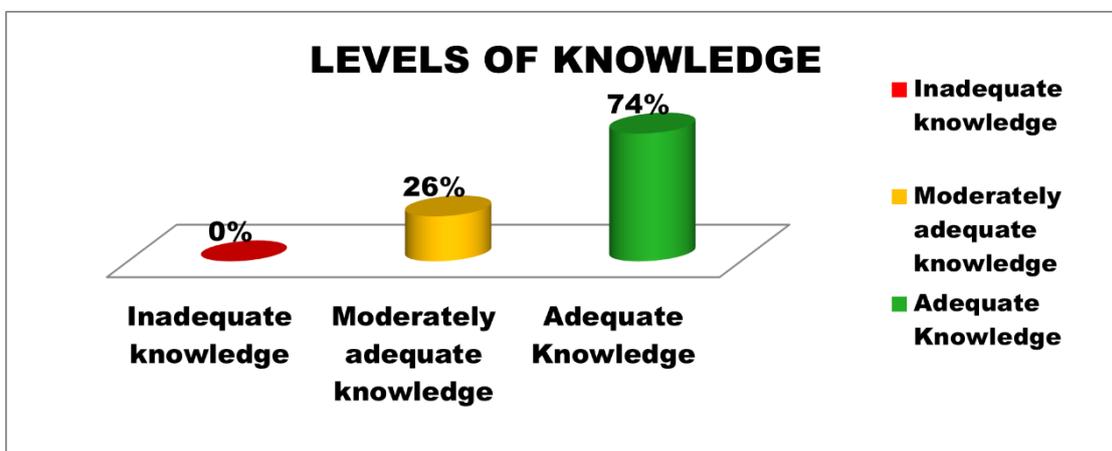
knowledge and worry most of the kids, mother and father and own circle of relative's participants increase the depth of Child Abuse. It is felt that abuses and its threats can triumph over thru right recognition approximately specific sorts of Child Abuse. So, the investigators are fascinated to evaluate the ranges of understanding and mind-set of own circle of relatives participants concerning infant abuse and its prevention. Which might be useful to behavior recognition programmes on infant abuse to save you similarly occurrence of infant abuse.

### Methodology

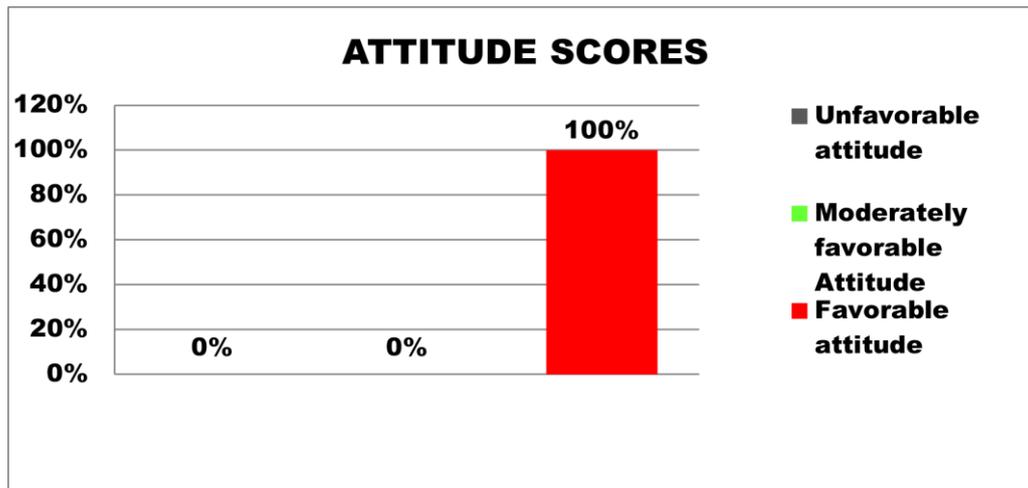
Quantitative survey approach was used with descriptive research design. The study was conducted at Mamata General Hospital outpatient department, Khammam, Telangana. The sample comprised of 50 family members of the child and sample was selected by non-probability convenience sampling technique. The data was collected by interview technique and tool used for data collection was structured interview schedule. Research variables were knowledge, attitude and selected socio-demographic variables are base line information of family members of the child such as age, gender, religion, Place of residence, number of children, relationship with the child, educational and occupational status of family members of the child, family income per month, source of information regarding Child abuse and its prevention.

### Result

The data do not provide the answers to research questions. Ordinarily the amount of data collected in a study by mere perusal.



**Figure 1:** Percentage distribution of family members according to their levels of knowledge.



**Figure 2:** Percentage distribution of family members regarding child abuse and its prevention according to their attitude scores.

The above figure (Figure 1) shows that distribution of knowledge scores of 50 sample regarding child abuse and its prevention, Majority of them 37(74%) had adequate knowledge, 13(26%) had moderately adequate attitude and none of them had inadequate knowledge.

Figure 2 shows that distribution of attitude scores of 50 sample regarding child abuse and its prevention, all of them 50(100%) had favourable attitude and none of them had moderately favourable attitude and unfavourable attitude.

### Discussion

A Study to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding child abuse and its prevention among family members of the child at Mamata General Hospital Outpatient Department, Khammam, Telangana. In order to achieve the objectives of the study. The data was collected from 50 Sample by interview technique. The findings have been discussed with reference to the objectives.

**Objective 1:** To describe the socio demographic variables of family members

- Regarding distribution of family members according to age among 50, majority of them 31 (62%) were in the age group between 30.1-40 years and 19(38%) were in the age group between 21 -30 years. According to the gender among 50, majority of them 48 (96%) were females and 02(04%) were males. According to religion among 50, majority of them 26(52%) were Hindus, 01 (02%) were Muslims, 23(46%) were Christians and none of them belongs to others. According to place of residence among 50, majority of them 33(66%) belongs to urban area ,14(28%) belongs to rural area and 03(06%) belongs to tribal area. According to

number of children among 50 majority of them 36(72%) had 2 children in family 8(16%) had 1 child in family and 6(12%) had 3 children and above. According to Relationship with the child, among 50 majority of them 28(56%) were mothers to child, 12(24%) were significant person to child, 08(16%) were siblings and 02(04%) were father to child. According to their educational status among 50, majority of them mothers 28(56%) were having primary education, 10(20%) were graduates and above,08(16%) were having secondary education, 02(04%) were non literates and 2(04%) were having Higher secondary education. According to the occupational status among 50 majority of them 15(30%) were private employee, 14(28%) were Government employee, 13(26%) were homemakers, 08(16%) were daily wagers and none of them were doing business. According to family income per month, among 50 majority of them 27(54%) were earning Rs 5001-10000, 12(24%) were earning below Rs 5000 and 07(14%) were earning above Rs 15000 and 04(08%) were earning Rs 10000- 15000. according to source of information regarding child abuse and its prevention among 50 majority of them 25(50%) were getting information from family members, relatives and friends, 20(40%) were getting information from health care personnel and 05(10%) were getting information from mass media.

**Objective 2:** To assess the levels of knowledge and attitude scores regarding Child Abuse and its prevention among family members.

- Regarding distribution of knowledge levels of family members among 50, majority of them

37(74%) had adequate knowledge, 13(26%) had moderately adequate knowledge and none of them had an inadequate knowledge.

- Regarding distribution of attitude scores of family members among 50 everyone had a favorable attitude 50(100%) and none of them had an unfavorable and moderately favorable attitude.

**Objective 3: To find out the association between knowledge and attitude scores of family members with their selected socio-demographic variables.**

- Chi square is not applicable for association between knowledge, attitude scores and selected socio demographic variables as the expected values are less than 5 at p value < 0.05 level. Hence only proportion are calculated.

**Objective 4: To develop and distribute an information booklet regarding Child Abuse and its prevention to family members**

- Information booklet on child abuse was prepared which includes definition, risk factors, causes, types, clinical manifestations, effects on child, management and prevention aspects, to enhance their knowledge and develop positive attitude among family members.

**Recommendations**

- The similar study can be replicated in different setting in community with larger sample.
- The similar study can be conducted using experimental designs.
- The similar study can be conducted by using comparative descriptive design.

**References**

1. Barker Philip, Basic Child Psychiatry. 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 2013, Australia. Blackwell Science limited; 321
2. Taş A. Investigation of the knowlegde levels of the Hacettepe University about neglect and abuse against children: Hacettepe University Institute of Social Sciences, Master Thesis, Ankara, Turkey. 2017.
3. WHO. Child Maltreatment (Child Abuse). 2015.

4. World Health Organization and International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (2006). "The nature and consequences of child maltreatment" (PDF). Preventing child maltreatment: a guide to taking action and generating evidence. Geneva, Switzerland. ISBN 978-9241594363
5. Noh Anh Helen. Cultural Diversity and the Definition of Child Abuse, in Barth, R.P. et al., Child Welfare Research Review, Columbia University Press, 1994, p. 28. ISBN 0-231-08074-3
6. Child Sexual Abuse. Medline Plus. U.S. National Library of Medicine. 2 April 2008. Archived from the original on 5 December 2013.
7. Martin J, Anderson J, Romans S, et al. Asking about child sexual abuse: methodological implications of a two-stage survey. *Child Abuse & Neglect* 1993; 17: 383–92.
8. NSPCC. Search. NSPCC. Archived from the original on 13 February 2010. Retrieved 5 March 2015
9. Donald Black. DSM-5® Guidebook: The Essential Companion to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. 2014 feb; p. 423. ISBN 978-1-58562-465-2.
10. Theoklitou D, Kabitsis N, Kabitsi A. Physical and emotional abuse of primary school children by teachers". *Child Abuse Negl* 2012; 36: 64–70.
11. Evans, Jane. "Children Who Experience Early Childhood Trauma Do Not 'Just Get Over It'". *Social Work Helper*. Archived from the original on 18 May 2015.
12. WHO, Global Health Observatory (GHO). 2020.
13. Global prevalence of past-year violence against children: J, Amobi A, Kress H. Systematic review and minimum estimates. *Pediatrics* 2016; 137(3): e20154079.
14. Ligiero D, Hart C, Fulu E, Thomas A, Radford L. What works to prevent sexual violence against children: evidence review. Washington DC: Together for Girls; 2019.
15. Ann Wolbert et al., Cyber child sexual exploitation journal of Psychosocial Nursing, 2016; 46[9].
16. The Hindu paper Hyderabad, August 01, 2016 N. Rahul- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/High-incidence-of-child-abuse-in-Telangana/article14545799.ece>.

