

A Study to Assess the Knowledge regarding First Aid Management of Epilepsy among Care Givers of Neuro Patients in Selected Hospital, Kollam

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Abstract: *Introduction: Epilepsy affecting 1 % of the world's population and is the most common serious disorder of the brain, greatly impacting on the quality of life of affected individuals, particularly those whose seizures are not fully controlled. Epilepsy has a multifactorial origin and a multifaceted expression. It is caused by clusters of nerve cells in the brain which sometimes signal abnormally, causing seizures. Anything that disturbs the normal pattern of neuronal activity—from illness to brain damage to abnormal brain development—can lead to seizures. Epilepsy may develop because of an abnormality in brain wiring, an imbalance of nerve signaling chemicals called neurotransmitters, changes in important features of brain cells called membrane receptors and channels, or some combination of these and other factors. Materials and Methods: Research approach and design: Quantitative research approach and Non experimental descriptive research design. Sampling technique: Non probability convenient sampling. Samples: 50 caregivers of neuro patients admitted in Bishop Benziger Hospital, Kollam. Tools: Demographic Proforma and Structured Knowledge questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge regarding first aid management of epilepsy among care givers of neuro patients in selected hospitals, Kollam. Results: The study aims to assess the knowledge of first aid management regarding epilepsy among caregivers of neuro patients with a view to develop information booklet. The study revealed that 26% of sample having poor knowledge, 52% of sample shows average knowledge and 22% sample were good knowledge. It was also found that there was no significant association between level of knowledge of first aid management of epilepsy among care givers of neuro patients with selected demographic variables such as age, gender, Religion, Education. And the researcher developed and distribute the information booklet regarding first aid management of epilepsy to the caregivers, to improve their knowledge regarding the same.*

Keywords: Assess, Epilepsy, caregivers, Instruction module

1. Introduction

Epilepsy is a group of non - communicable neurological disorders characterized by recurrent epileptic seizures. An epileptic seizure is the clinical manifestation of an abnormal, excessive, purposeless and synchronized electrical discharge in the brain cells called neurons. The occurrence of two or more unprovoked seizures defines epilepsy. Epilepsy affecting 1 % of the world's population and is the most common serious disorder of the brain, greatly impacting on the quality of life of affected individuals, particularly those whose seizures are not fully controlled. Epilepsy has a multifactorial origin and a multifaceted expression. It is caused by clusters of nerve cells in the brain which sometimes signal abnormally, causing seizures. Anything

that disturbs the normal pattern of neuronal activity—from illness to brain damage to abnormal brain development—can lead to seizures. Epilepsy may develop because of an abnormality in brain wiring, an imbalance of nerve signaling chemicals called neurotransmitters, changes in important features of brain cells called membrane receptors and channels, or some combination of these and other factors. The age adjusted prevalence ratio of active epilepsy in Kerala is 4.7 per 1000 population.

2. Materials and methods

The research design adopted for this study was non experimental descriptive research design. The present study was conducted in Bishop Benziger Hospital, Kollam, the

sample selected for the study were be 50 caregivers of neuro patients admitted in Bishop Benziger Hospital, Kollam. Non probability convenient sampling technique was used in this study. The data analysis was done under following headings:

- **Section A: Demographic Proforma:** It consists of demographic and clinical profile of patients such as age, gender, religion and education. **Section B: knowledge questionnaire:** knowledge questionnaire consisted of 20 multiple choice questions to assess the knowledge regarding first aid management of epilepsy among caregivers of neuro patients in selected hospital, Kollam The purpose of the study was explained to the samples. Written consent was taken from the participants and assessed the knowledge regarding first aid management among caregivers of neuro patients. The data collection was terminated by thanking the participants for their cooperation and provide information booklet for them. The data collected was then compiled for analysis.

3. Results

Session A: description of sample characteristics, N=50

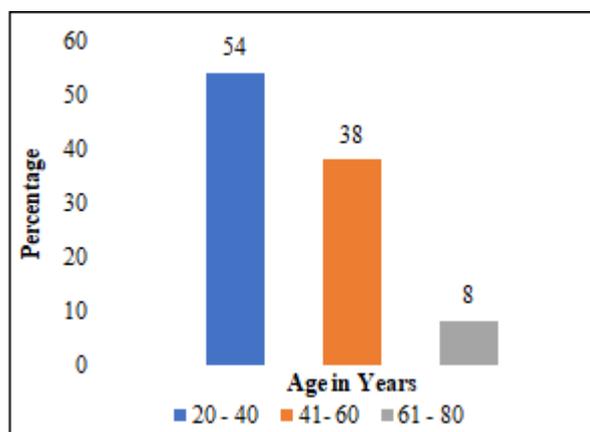


Figure 1: Percentage wise distribution in care gives of neuro patients according to age

N=50

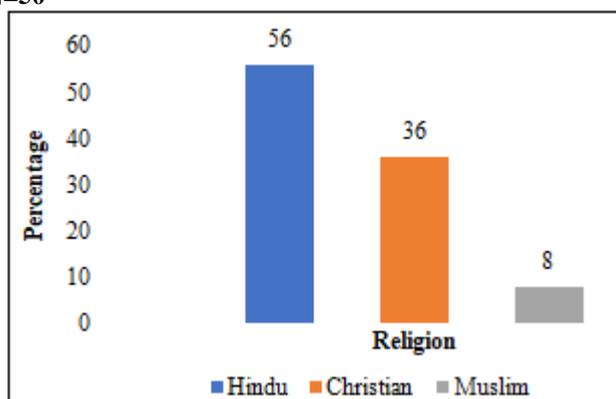


Figure 2: Percentage wise distribution in caregivers of neuro patients according to Religion

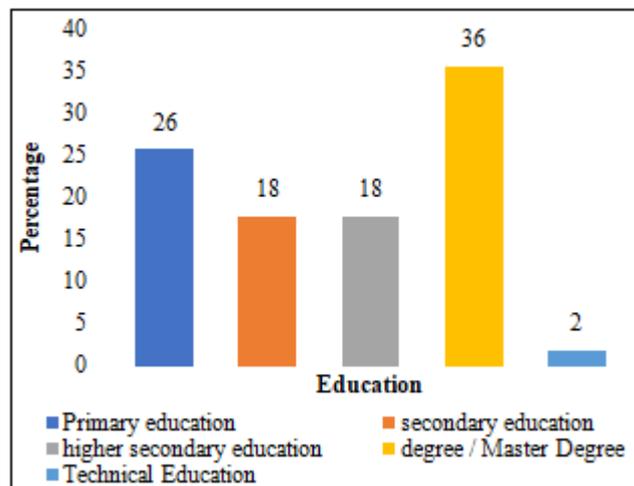


Figure 3: Percentage wise distribution in caregivers of neuro patients according to Education

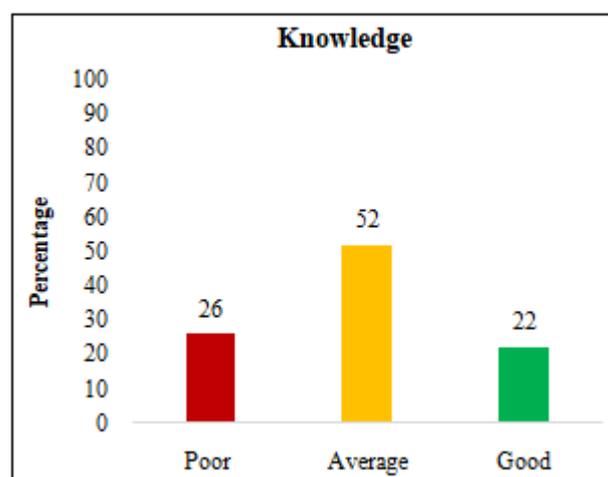


Figure 4: Percentage wise distribution in caregivers of neuro patients according to knowledge

Section B: Description of Knowledge score of first aid management of epilepsy among care givers of neuro patients

Table 1: Shows description of Knowledge score of first aid management of epilepsy among care givers of neuro patients

Sl. No	Level of Knowledge	Number of samples	Percentage
1	Poor	13	26%
2	Average	26	52%
3	Good	11	22%

4. Discussion and Conclusion

A study is expected to assess burden and its predictors among caregivers of children with epilepsy. A total of 106 caregivers were interviewed using purposive sampling technique. In our present study 50 caregivers of neuro patients where using non probability convenient sampling techniques. The study result shows that Majority of the caregivers (71.7%) were females and 64.2% of caregivers were mothers of children. Majority of responders (77.4%) were Hindus. Mild to moderate burden was found in 27.4% and high burden was found in 14.2% of the caregivers. Borderline anxiety, borderline depression, anxiety and depression were present in 7.5%, 8.5%, 6.6%, and 6.6% caregivers respectively. In the present study shows that 26%

of sample having poor knowledge, 52% of sample shows average knowledge and 22% sample were good knowledge. . The study Concluded that Burden, anxiety and depression are common problems in caregivers of patient with epilepsy. In the present study shows that there was no significant association between level of knowledge of first aid management of epilepsy among care givers of neuro patients with selected demograpohic variables such as age, gender, Religion, Education. And the researcher developed and distributes the information booklet regarding first aid management of epilepsy to the caregivers, to improve their knowledge regarding the same.

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