A Study to Assess the Knowledge on Impact of Alcoholism among the Persons Consuming Alcohol Admitted in RMMCH, Chidambaram

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Abstract: *Health problems associated with alcohol consumption have reached alarming levels. Alcohol use contributes to a wide range of liver diseases, mental disorders and road traffic injury, unsafe sexual behaviour. So, a descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge on impact of alcoholism among the persons consuming alcohol. A sample of 100 patients was selected using convenience sampling technique. Data collection was done by using structured interview questionnaire. An average of 5 samples per day were interviewed. After collection of the data, an informational module was issued regarding impact of alcoholism. The result showed that among 100 samples, 20(20%) had inadequate knowledge, 78(78%) had moderate knowledge, 2(2%) had adequate knowledge. Regarding general impact, 19(19%) of them had no impact, 42(42%) of them had mild impact, 19(19%) of them had moderate impact and 20(20%) of them had severe impact. Regarding family impact, 15(15%) of them had no impact, 46(46%) of them had mild impact, 31(31%) of them had moderate impact and 38(38%) of them had severe impact. Regarding financial impact, 32(32%) of them had no impact, none of them had mild impact, 34(34%) of them had moderate impact and 34(34%) of them had severe impact. Regarding social impact, 1(1%) of them had no impact, 22(22%) of them had mild impact, 33(33%) of them had moderate impact and 44(44%) of them had severe impact. Regarding occupational impact, 16(16%) of them had no impact, 22(22%) of them had mild impact, 26(26%) of them had moderate impact and 36(36%) of them had severe impact. Regarding health impact, 26(26%) of them had no impact, 34(34%) of them had mild impact, 18(18%) of them had moderate impact and 22(22%) of them had severe impact. Regarding personal impact, 10(10%) of them had no impact, 50(50%) of them had mild impact, 24(24%) of them had moderate impact and 16(16%) of them had severe impact. There exists an association between the education and occupational status with knowledge level. Educational status score had high mean value (12.6) when compared with their counter parts. The uneducated people having lesser knowledge on alcoholism compared to the educated people. Thus, the difference in knowledge on alcoholism among the persons consuming alcohol was confirmed by the obtained 'p' value (0.001) which is significant. The farmers have lesser knowledge on alcoholism compared to their counterparts. Thus, the difference in their knowledge on alcoholism among the persons consuming alcohol was confirmed by the obtained 'p' value (0.002) which is significant.*

Keywords: Alcoholism, health effects, Knowledge level, social consequences, behavioural patterns & Impact

1. Introduction

Nearly, 4% of the global burden of disease is attributable to alcohol, which accounts for about as much death and disability globally. Globally, 6.2% of all male deaths are related to alcohol to 1.1% of female deaths one-in-five men in Russian Federation and neighbouring countries die due to alcohol – related causes. Globally 320,000 young people aged 19 – 25 years die annually from alcohol – related causes, resulting in 9% of death in that age group.

Oh Sang Kwon et al. (2006) conducted a study regarding anti – hepatitis 'B' core positivity as a risk factor for hepato cellular carcinoma in alcoholic cirrhosis. In their study, the authors investigated whether anti – hepatitis B core (HBc) positivity or occult hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is a risk factor for HCC in patients with alcoholic cirrhosis between January 2006 and august 2008, a total of 72 cirrhotic male patients with an initial diagnosis of HCC. Result shows that Anti HBc positivity was identified as a risk factor for the development of HCC in patients with alcoholic cirrhosis.

Inkyung Baik and Chol Shin (2007) conducted a prospective study of alcohol consumption and metabolic syndrome. The main objective of the study was to examine the association between alcohol consumption and incident metabolic syndrome. The results showed that heavy drinking, in particular among liquor drinkers, is associated with an increased risk of the metabolic syndrome by influencing its components.

2. Materials and Methods

Descriptive design was used for the study to assess the knowledge on impact of alcoholism among the persons consuming alcohol. By using convenience sampling technique, 100 samples were selected. The study was conducted in male medical wards in RMMCH, Chidambaram. The study was conducted after obtaining ethical clearance from The Institutional Human Ethical Committee and permission from the Medical Superintendents, RMMCH, Chidambaram. The participants were informed of the study, and a written consent was obtained from each of the participants. The tool used for data collection was a structured interview schedule. It was organized into 2 parts. Part I : had 2 sections A & B. Section A assessed the socio-demographic data of the persons consuming alcohol. Section B assessed about the basic profile of alcoholism. Part II: had 2 sections sections A & B. Section A assessed about the knowledge on alcoholism. Section B assessed about the impact of alcoholism.

Scoring Interpretation of the Tool

The knowledge part consists of 25 questions.
Knowledge questionnaire consists of 25 questions. Correct answer was given a score of '1' (one) and the wrong answer was given a score of '0' (zero).

- 0 - 48 %   -   Inadequate knowledge
- 49 - 76 %   -   Moderately adequate knowledge
- 77 - 100 %   -   Adequate knowledge

Impact part consists of 31 questions.
It consists of 31 statements with two options 'Yes' or 'No'. Yes answer was given a score of '1' (one) and the No answer was given a score of '0' (zero).

- 0-25%   -   No impact
- 26-50%   -   Mild impact
- 51-75%   -   Moderate impact
- 76-100%   -   Severe impact

After the data collection procedure, booklet was given regarding ill effects of alcoholism to all the subjects.

3. Results

The data were assembled, analyzed and tested for their significance using both descriptive and inferential statistical methods.

Table 1: Distribution of Level of Knowledge on Alcoholism among the Persons Consuming Alcohol (N = 100)

S. No	Level of Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage %
1.	Inadequate	20	20
2.	Moderately adequate	78	78
3.	Adequate	2	2

Table 1 shows the distribution of level of knowledge among the persons consuming alcohol in which 20(20%) of the subjects had inadequate knowledge, 78(78%) of the subjects had moderate knowledge and 2(2%) of the subjects had adequate knowledge regarding alcoholism.

Level of Impact on Alcoholism among the Persons Consuming Alcohol
Level of impact on alcoholism analyzed in following sections – general impact, family impact, financial impact, social impact, occupational impact, health impact and personal impact.

General Impact
General level of impact on alcoholism in which 19(19%) of them had no impact, 42(42%) of them had mild impact, 19(19%) of them had moderate impact and 20(20%) of them had severe impact.

Family Impact
The impact of alcoholism on the family as 15(15%) of them had no impact, 46(46%) of them had mild impact, 31(31%) of them had moderate impact and 38(38%) of them had severe impact.

Financial Impact
Regarding the impact of alcoholism on the financial background as 32(32%) of them had no impact, 0(0%) of them had mild impact, 34(34%) of them had moderate impact and 34(34%) of them had severe impact.

Social Impact
Regarding the social impact of alcoholism as 1(1%) of them had no impact, 22(22%) of them had mild impact, 33(33%) of them had moderate impact and 44(44%) of them had severe impact.

Occupational Impact
Regarding the occupational impact of alcoholism as 16(16%) of them had no impact, 22(22%) of them had mild impact, 26(26%) of them had moderate impact and 36(36%) of them had severe impact.

Health Impact
Regarding the health impact of alcoholism as 26(26%) of them had no impact, 34(34%) of them had mild impact, 18(18%) of them had moderate impact and 22(22%) of them had severe impact.

Personal Impact
Regarding the personal impact of alcoholism as 10(10%) of them had no impact, 50(50%) of them had mild impact, 24(24%) of them had moderate impact and 16(16%) of them had severe impact.

Table 3: Association of Knowledge Level on Alcoholism with Certain Demographic Variables

S. No.	Demographic Variables		N	Mean	Standard deviation	Kruskal Wallis Test	p value
1.	Education	Uneducated	21	8.52	4.11	19.63	0.001 *
		Primary school	22	8.54	3.87		
		Middle school	24	10.4	3.94		
		Higher secondary	25	12.3	3.08		
		Other degree	8	12.6	1.92		
2.	Occupation	Unemployed	8	12.3	3.11	18.64	0.002 *
		Labourer	28	10.7	3.29		
		Farmer	32	7.96	3.45		
		Office worker	19	11.8	4.60		
		Driver	8	10.2	4.23		
		Student	5	12.8	2.04		

* - Significant

Table 2 inferred that subjects with educational status score high mean value (12.6) when compared to their counterparts.

The uneducated people show lesser knowledge on alcoholism compared to the educated people. Thus, the

difference in their knowledge on alcoholism among the person consuming alcohol was confirmed by the obtained 'p' value (0.001) which is significant. The farmers have lesser knowledge on alcoholism compared to their counterparts. Thus, the difference in their knowledge on alcoholism among the persons consuming alcohol was confirmed by the obtained 'p' value (0.002) which is significant.

4. Discussion

The collected data were analyzed, organized and discussed under the following headings.

The first objective of the study was to assess the existing knowledge on alcoholism.

The distribution of level of knowledge on alcoholism among which 20(20%) of the subjects had inadequate knowledge, 78(78%) of the subjects had moderate knowledge and 2(2%) of the subjects had adequate knowledge regarding alcoholism.

The second objective of the study was to assess the impact of alcoholism among the person consuming alcohol.

1) **General Impact**: Regarding the general impact of alcoholism as 19(19%) of them had no impact, 42(42%) of them had mild impact, 19(19%) of them had moderate impact and 20(20%) of them had severe impact.
2) **Family Impact**: Regarding the impact of alcoholism on family as 15(15%) of them had no impact, 46(46%) of them had mild impact, 31(31%) of them had moderate impact and 38(38%)of them had severe impact.
3) **Financial Impact:** Regarding the impact of alcoholism on financial background as 32(32%) of them had no impact, 0(0%) of them had mild impact, 34(34%) of them had moderate impact and 34(34%)of them had severe impact.
4) **Social Impact:** Regarding the impact of alcoholism on the social set up as 1(1%) of them had no impact, 22(22%) of them had mild impact, 33(33%) of the had moderate impact and 44(44%)of them had severe impact.
5) **Occupational Impact**: Regarding the impact of alcoholism on the occupational as 16(16%) of them had no impact, 22(22%) of them had mild impact, 26(26%) of them had moderate impact and 36(36%) of them had severe impact.
6) **Health Impact**: The fact regarding the health impact of alcoholism as 26(26%) of them had no impact, 34(34%) of them had mild impact, 18(18%) of them had moderate impact and 22(22%) of them had severe impact.
7) **Personal Impact**: Regarding the personal impact of alcoholism on the personal status as 10(10%) of them had no impact, 50(50%) of them had mild impact, 24(24%) of them had moderate impact and 16(16%) of them had severe impact.

The third objective of the study was to associate the knowledge with certain demographic variables.

There is no association exists between the knowledge on alcoholism with religion, Type of family, number of children and area of living but association exists between the knowledge level with education and occupation. The kruskal wall is test was applied to find out the association.

5. Conclusion

The significant finding of the study is only 2% of the subjects had adequate knowledge about the impact of alcoholism and 98% of the respondents had no sufficient knowledge on alcohol and its effects.

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