

# A Study on Knowledge Regarding First Aid among College Student of Rusha (Vellore)

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**Abstract:** *Today's Children are tomorrow's citizen". Imparting scientific knowledge to the students is inevitable to build up a healthy society. The preventive aspect of child care is an important part of health promotion, and to protect the child from various emergencies. Enlightening the students, regarding various aspects of primary aid to mitigate the serious repercussions of accidents. Increased focus on safety strategies in emergency and public awareness has a direct impact on reducing the mortality rates and improving the general health of the population. All students should receive first aid training. It is the need of the hour to facilitate the students with scientific knowledge. They are more prone to a variety of injuries. There are many people lost their lives because of slow attention and assistance at a time of accident or injuries. Quick and timely help with proper techniques not only reduce severity of injuries and deaths. Providing of knowledge and training about correct management of injuries and illnesses to students is important for two causes; first, it will improve their health knowledge which in turn may lead to healthy and save life. Second, they may be used as a change agent in the family and community. So the college should prepare students to meet these needs which including; assistance to victims, quickly emergency response, care for their own safety, and the safety of victims and witnesses.*

## 1. Need of the Study

It is very difficult for a man to go out somewhere and return safely because we cannot give any guarantee or security to our life. This is the world of accidental world. So many accidents occur in many places like in schools, during travelling, when doing our daily activities and place is left out. People motive is just to get away from the place when accident occurs. They do not come forward to help or to have some first aid care because they are not aware of giving first aid for injuries. Every year, 150,000 people may die in situations where first aid could have given them a chance to live (St John Ambulance, 2012). Almost, 35% of deaths occur within 5 minutes of an accident while another 54% would die within 30 minutes. However, by giving first-aid at the site of the injury deaths can be decreased in 20% (Metin & Mutlu, 2010). **Tamil Nadu** has topped the number of deaths (191) due to drowning at sea since January this year. People in the age group of 15-25 years have emerged the most vulnerable. In Chennai, 63 persons drowned in the Marina, Elliots and other beaches. As many as 550 cases of drowning were registered in the last three years and the victims include some fishermen. Despite their level of knowledge, a vast majority of students agreed that it was very important for them to learn first aid, and most wanted to learn more. You are never too young to learn lifesaving first-aid skills.

## 2. Objectives of the study

- 1) To assess the knowledge of medical students regarding first aid.
- 2) To prepare a health education on first aid.
- 3) To assess pretest and post-test knowledge scores.

**KGG Priyangika and M Hettiarachchi 2015)** conducted a study on knowledge and attitude on first aid among students in relation to gender and previous exposure to first aid training. The result shows that there is significant difference in attitude of females than man. There were positive attitude

towards learning first aid, the knowledge and practice on first aid was insufficient among students.

**N Joseph, GS Kumar (2014)** conducted a study to assess the level of knowledge of undergraduate students of a medical college in Mangalore City of South India in providing first aid care, to identify the emergencies where there is a lack of knowledge of first aid and to assess the student's opinion regarding the need for first aid training at medical colleges. Result shows that 13.8% students had good, 68.4% had moderate and 17.8% had poor level of knowledge about first aid. There was no association of gender or previous training in first aid skills with the level of current knowledge about first aid among the participants.

## 3. Methodology

The students were briefed about the objective of the study and their informed consent was taken for participation. A self-administered anonymous multiple choice questionnaire was used for data collection to assess the knowledge of students regarding administration of first aid in different situations. Research approach selected for this study was quantitative approach. Ten students of medical sociology were selected for samples by using convenient sampling technique. A structured knowledge questionnaire was used as a tool for data collection. The structured knowledge questionnaire consisted of fifteen items.

### Data collection Procedure

Administrative permission was obtained from the concerned institution of RUSHA department. Informed consent from the participants also was obtained. They were also assured for the confidentiality of the information. Data was collected in June 2016. The total time duration taken by respondents to complete the questionnaire was half an hour. After the data collection procedure plan teaching programme was given to the students.

#### **Plan for data analysis:**

Data was analysed using Statistical Package for social sciences (SPSS). Mean knowledge score of students was 48.44% of total score in pre-test, which was poor. After giving health education mean knowledge score was fair i.e. 65.66%.

Scoring system of questionnaires: - (0) for wrong answer and (1) for right answer. Total score of knowledge was (15) points, it was categorized into three levels; poor knowledge > 50%, fair knowledge 50-70% and good knowledge < 70%. The higher the score the better knowledge for first-aid.

**Ethical Consideration:** Ethical clearance obtained from the ethical committee of the institution. Consent from sample had been taken at the time of data collection.

## **4. Conclusion**

The level of knowledge about first aid was not good among most of the students. This study thus identified the need for introducing formal first aid training classes for medical students so that the trained students are competitive enough to provide first aid independently and spontaneously in real life situations. From the study, it is concluded that awareness regarding first aid among the medical student was poor before the health education (Intervention) while awareness regarding first-aid was significantly increased after the health education.

## **5. Future Suggestions**

The findings of the study are implicated in different areas such as-

#### **Nursing practice**

- Education and training can be provided to the teachers in school by nurses.
- Improving the skills through attending various training program me.

#### **Nursing education**

- Nurses can provide the orientation to the school teachers about the CPR and various other common problems for example seizures, fainting etc.
- Booklet can be given regarding basic first aid guidelines.

#### **Nursing administration**

The authorities should allow nurses to conduct mock drills to teach teachers regarding First Aid Management.

## **6. Recommendations**

- a) The study can be done in large population to generalize the findings.
- b) Comparison between the government and private school teachers regarding the knowledge of First Aid Management can be done.
- c) Randomized sampling technique can be done in future study.

- d) Experimental study can be done to assess the effectiveness of workshop regarding the knowledge through pretest and posttest.

## **References**

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