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A Study to Assess the Effectiveness of Structured Teaching Program on Knowledge Regarding Fluorosis in Selected Schools of Udaipur City

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Abstract: ***Millions of men, women and children in many countries of the world are affected by fluorosis and many of them are crippled and leading to a vegetative life. The economically weaker sections of society having low nutritional status are affected more. The incurable disease continues to be a major public health problem and urgent preventive measures are needed. Besides causing skeletal fluorosis, dental fluorosis, crippling fluorosis, inorganic fluoride can also lead to acute poisoning, neurological, muscular, allergic, gastro intestinal, urinary tract disorder and some effects on tissues and systems. India is one of the most fluorosis affected country. This is because a large number of people rely on ground water for drinking purpose and water at many places is rich in fluoride. In India 62 million people including 6 million children are estimated to the serious health problem of due to consumption of fluoride containing water. In India at least 20 states are affected with fluorosis out of this Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujrat is most affected state with fluorosis. Therefore, researcher took a research study to asses knowledge regarding fluorosis among school children and to assess the effectiveness of STP as if they are aware about fluorosis they in turn will also aware their families and community about fluorosis because children are the upcoming builders of the community.***

Keywords: Assess, Knowledge, Effectiveness, Structured Teaching Program, High School Children, and Fluorosis

1. Objectives

1) To assess the pre-test knowledge regarding fluorosis among high school children.
2) To prepare and administer structured teaching program on knowledge regarding fluorosis among high school children.
3) To evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching program on knowledge regarding fluorosis among high school children.
4) To find out the association between pre-test knowledge scores regarding fluorosis and selected socio-demographic variables.

Hypothesis

H1: There will be significant difference between mean pre-test and post-test knowledge scores regarding fluorosis among high school children.

H2: There will be significant association between mean pre-test knowledge scores and selected socio-demographic variables.

2. Material and Methods

In this study Pre- Experimental design, one group pre-test and post-test design was used. Evaluative approach was used for the present study. This study was conducted at selected high schools of Udaipur city. Samples were selected by using simple random sampling method. The Sample size for the present study comprised of 110 high school children. The data was collected using structured knowledge questionnaire and after this structured teaching program was administered. After seven days, post-test was conducted using the same structured knowledge questionnaire. Data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

3. Results

On over all comparison mean pre and post-test level of knowledge among respondents regarding Fluorosis. In the pre-test 88%, respondents had poor knowledge, 12% had average knowledge and no one had good knowledge level regarding Fluorosis while in post-test 45%, respondents had poor knowledge, 34% had average knowledge and 21% had good knowledge level regarding Fluorosis.

The mean pre-test knowledge scores were 8.33 with SD 5.07. The mean post-test knowledge scores were 15.30 with SD 4.19. The t-value calculated was -23**.**57 at df 109**.**Statistical analysis showed that there was significant difference between mean Pre-test knowledge score and Post-test knowledge score and t calculated value was higher than tabulated value which depicted that the structured teaching program was an effective strategy to enhance knowledge of high school children regarding Fluorosis.

There was no significant association between mean pre-test knowledge scores and socio demographic variables such as age in years, area of residence, attended any program on fluorosis and source of information. whereas, there was significant association between mean pre-test knowledge scores and gender, class and stream of subject of respondents.

4. Conclusion

The knowledge of the high school children regarding fluorosis before the administration of the structured teaching program was very low. The structured teaching program significantly increased the knowledge of high school children regarding Fluorosis. The structured teaching program was an effective strategy to enhance the knowledge of high school children so these kind of strategies can be used in the school to increase knowledge regarding fluorosis to reduce the ill effects of fluorosis on health.