

A Cross-Sectional Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Preventive Measures of Tuberculosis among Class IV Workers of Quaternary Care Hospital

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Abstract: *Tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious, infectious disease, due to Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MT), which usually lasts throughout the life course and determines the formation of tubercles in different parts of the body. A total of 1.3 million people died from TB in 2022 (including 167,000 people with HIV) worldwide; being the second leading cause after COVID (Hayman J 1984; MacDonald et al 2015). MDR-TB remains a public health crisis and a health security threat. Only about 2 in 5 people with drug resistant TB accessed treatment in 2022. Global efforts to combat TB have saved an estimated 75 million lives since the year 2000. Ending the TB Epidemic by 2030 is among the health targets of United Nations Sustainable Developmental Goals (WHO 2024).*

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitude, Tuberculosis, Health care workers, sociodemographic variables

1. Introduction

Objectives

- To assess the knowledge regarding preventive measures of TB among class IV employees of selected Quaternary care hospital.
- To assess attitude towards TB among class IV workers.
- To correlate knowledge and attitude of TB for class IV workers.
- To associate knowledge with selected sociodemographic variables.
- To associate attitude with selected sociodemographic variables
- To formulate the informational booklet regarding preventive measures of tuberculosis.

2. Methodology

Source of data: Data will be collected from class IV employees of selected quaternary care hospital.

Method of data collection: Convenience Sampling;

- Approach: Quantitative
- Research design: Cross sectional research design
- Research setting: Quaternary care hospital
- Target population: All Class IV employees of quaternary care hospital

3. Data Collection

The type of tool used is a semi structured questionnaire. It consists of two sections focusing on knowledge and attitude.

Section A: Questionnaire on socio demographic data.

Section B:

- a) Knowledge questionnaire on TB preventive measure
- b) Attitude questionnaire on TB preventive measures

4. Data analysis

Major findings of the study based on socio demographic variables of study sample;

- Out of 164 samples 34.7% in the age group of 31 to 40 years, 31.1% were in the age group of 21 to 30 years, 17.1% were in the age group of 41 to 50 years, 11% were in the age group of more than 50 years and the minority of them 6.1% were in the age group less than 20 years.
- Age was found significant association at $p < 0.05$ with knowledge regarding tuberculosis preventive measures among class IV employee but other demographic variables such as gender, marital status, educational qualification and years of experience were found to be nonsignificant at $p < 0.05$
- Demographic variables such as age, gender, marital status, educational qualification and years of experience were found to be nonsignificant at $p < 0.05$ with attitude regarding tuberculosis preventive measures among class IV employee.
- Findings related to association of knowledge with selected demographic variables
- There is statistically significant association at $p < 0.05$ with knowledge regarding tuberculosis preventive measures among class IV employee among age as a demographic variable.
- The other demographic variables such as gender, marital status, educational qualification and years of experience were found to be nonsignificant at $p < 0.05$ with knowledge regarding tuberculosis preventive measures among class IV employee.

5. Results

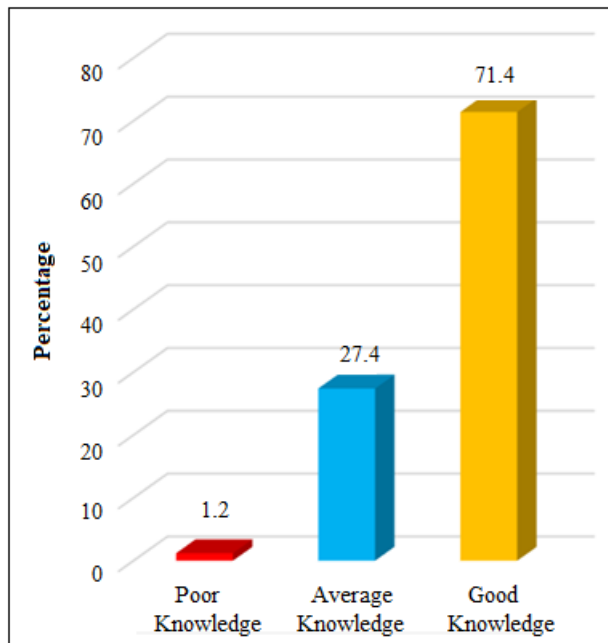


Figure: Knowledge regarding TB preventive measures

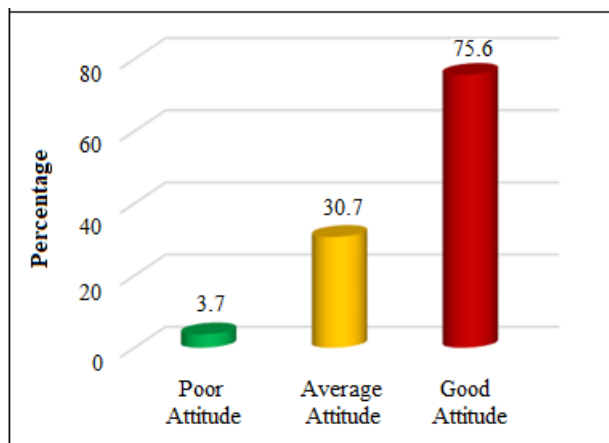


Figure: Attitude regarding TB preventive measures

6. Discussion

The present study revealed that the correlation between knowledge and attitude regarding tuberculosis preventive measures among class IV employee which was tested by using Karl Pearson correlation formula. Result showed that ($r=0.133$, $p=0.090$) indicate weak positive correlation between knowledge and attitude regarding tuberculosis preventive measures among class IV employee and was statistically non-significant.

7. Implications

Nursing Education.

- Encourage nursing curriculum committees to incorporate the knowledge of current guidelines in testing and treating persons with latent TB infection and disease
- Provide with the most current resources for implementing teaching strategies aimed at the nursing management and treatment of the patient and family affected by TB.

Nursing Administration

Trained health experts should utilize time of class IV workers working in various wards and OPD to teach them about preventive measures about tuberculosis

8. Recommendations

- On the basis of inferred data the following recommendations are drawn for the future research and practice:
- Stratified random sampling should be done for the study large sample size should be taken for generalizing
- Promote vocational training among class workers
- Treatment of the patient and family affected by TB.

9. Conclusion

Educating class IV workers about preventive measures of tuberculosis is important for creating awareness, significance was found between age and knowledge of class IV workers. It is essential to implement target education interventions to raise awareness and enhance knowledge hence an educational booklet was formulated.

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