

ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF CHILDREN AND CARE TAKERS REGARDING CHILD ABUSE BEFORE AND AFTER NURSE -LED INTERVENTIONS

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ABSTRACT

Parents' attitudes towards child abuse improved, and children and their carers gained more information as a result of the nurse-led intervention. We used a pre-experimental design to evaluate the level of knowledge and attitude towards child abuse among the children and carers who had been identified. The attitude of carers was changed to some extent as a result of the nurse-led intervention. At the 0.005 level of significance, the nurse-led intervention was successful in bringing about an attitude change. According to the study's results, this demographic desperately needs education and awareness campaigns on child abuse. The time has come to take preventative action and be vigilant against child abuse, particularly among the youngest members of society.

Keywords: Knowledge, Children, Care Takers, Child and Abuse

INTRODUCTION

Every kind of child abuse is practiced throughout India. As a form of punishment, child abuse is often overlooked or even condoned. Even though most offenders go free, unpunished, and untreated, abused children keep suffering. Breaking the silence, responding to, and preventing child abuse and neglected in India requires facing these facts. Stopping child abuse before it happens and helping authorities find victims quickly are two main goals of current preventive initiatives. Due to the unique needs of those under the age of 18 that adults do not always share, global leaders saw the necessity for a convention devoted just to children in 1989. The Convention on the Rights of the Child provides the legal basis for the protection and promotion of children's rights. A thorough understanding of child protection is provided in Article 19 of the CRC, which stresses the significance of preventing child abuse. Once a state ratifies the Convention on the Rights of the Child, it is legally bound to implement all of its articles.

The term "child abuse and neglect" (CAN) describes situations in which parents or other carers intentionally do damage to a child, whether it be physical or mental injury, sexual assault, exploitation, or the withholding of care (CPFSA 2014b). Physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, neglectful, trafficking, and child labour are all forms of abuse according to the Child Protection and Family Services Agency (CPFSA 2014b). Child abuse and neglect may have devastating effects on a child's overall health and development, including their mental, emotional, behavioural, and social growth (Hunter, 2014; Weaver, 2014). Additionally, CAN affects communities, families, and society as large. As an example, "with a conservative estimated total cost of USD\$124 billion a year" (Ferrara et al. 2015, 1457), the lifetime cost of CAN for each kid who survives its effects is about \$210,000 USD. This provides additional

evidence that preventing child abuse and neglect is more cost-effective than treating existing cases and their harmful effects.

LITERATURE RIEVIEW

Mohamed (2018) Examining educators' perspectives on child abuse is central to this research project. The study's research strategy was based on a descriptive design. The research included 274 classroom instructors as its sample. The setting was a sample of eight public elementary schools in Minia city, including both urban and rural areas. Gathering data Included two instruments: a systematic knowledge questionnaire and an analytical tool. The second one is a rating of attitudes. Conclusions: 62% of educators had an unfavourable attitude towards child abuse, and 62% had little understanding about the topic. More awareness will aid in fighting with the difficulties of child abuse, which is a worldwide issue that affects children in numerous ways. A programme to educate educators about child abuse and how to protect children should be developed and put into action.

Mathew, Nimitha & V, Xavier. (2020). The purpose of the study was to evaluate the sexual abuse prevention knowledge and abilities of rural teenagers. The sixty teenagers who participated in the quantitative research ranged in age from thirteen to sixteen. In certain areas, such as forms of abuse and body ownership, teenagers have more information than adults, but when it comes to juvenile sexual offenders and victimization of males, for example, they know very little. Research demonstrates that very few teenagers really exhibit aggressive abilities. According to the research, there should have been greater efforts to educate teenagers on how to avoid sexual assault. To improve the efficacy of sexual abuse prevention, the interventions may be expanded to include parents and instructors.

Dinehart (2015) The purpose of this research was to examine the level of awareness and reporting habits among a representative cross-section of ECE professionals about child abuse. The Child Abuse Questionnaire for Early Childhood Educators was filled out by 137 Florida practitioners. Only a small percentage of those who took the survey actually reported instances of child abuse. Most still didn't know what to report in accordance with the law, even though they had received training on child abuse. A greater propensity to report to school administration rather than directly to authorities was shown by responses to vignettes of possible abuse. The majority of responders showed a reasonable level of knowledge on a test measuring child abuse. There are some suggestions for studies that might include ECE administrators in the future.

Jin, Yichen & Chen (2016) A total of 559 students, ranging from first to fifth grade, were selected from a single elementary school in Beijing, China, to assess their knowledge and abilities regarding the prevention of child sexual abuse. A questionnaire measuring participants' understanding and competency in preventing sexual abuse of children was distributed to them. There was an accurate knowledge rate of 44.0% to 80.0% on the prevention of child sexual abuse, according to the results. Of those who took part in the study, 57.4% had used the self-defense skill of "saying 'no,'" 28.3% had used "going away," and 48.3% had used "telling adults" Appropriately in mock scenarios. Girls did better than males, and students in grades three through five outperformed those in grades one through two. Developing education

programmes to teach Chinese school-aged children how to avoid child sexual abuse should be a top priority in light of the findings.

Fayaz, Irfan. (2019). Abuse of children is a widespread problem in every culture. Any behaviour that causes substantial injury to a kid, whether it be an adult or another child, is considered child abuse. Injuries to a child's body, mind, or sexuality may all lead to abuse. Neglect is an example of inactivity that causes damage to children, while acts of abuse are more common. This research is an amateur attempt to fill in some gaps in our knowledge on child abuse and its many manifestations. Also included in this research are the aftereffects and ways to avoid child abuse in the future. In order to support children's growth and development, society as a whole must establish primary preventive programmes, with a focus on families and schools. These are the main safeguards that communities may put in place to protect children from abuse. Assisting children affected by child abuse include mental health specialists, pediatricians, and child protective agencies.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The administering pre- and post-tests to both children and carers in order to gauge their level of understanding and attitude towards the topic of child abuse. Students and their carers from Indore schools who were 7 to 10 years old made up the study's population. samples were taken from the carers of the 387 children who were determined to have undergone child abuse. Included in kid demographic statistics are the following: Details on the child's age, gender, educational background, family type, number of siblings, and any history of abuse. Caretakers will find 32 items on the blueprint for the structured knowledge questionnaire on child abuse. Children and carers' knowledge and attitude scores were analysed using means, standard deviations, and differences of means for both the pretest and posttest.

DATA ANALYSIS

In order to determine the efficacy of the nurse-led intervention on child abuse knowledge, this section compares the mean score of knowledge before and after the intervention. The purpose of this research is to assess the impact of nurse-led interventions on students' understanding of child abuse in a sample of Indore schools. A paired t-test with a significance threshold of 0.05 was used to evaluate the hypothesis.

Table 1: Significance of difference between mean score of knowledge score regarding child abuse among children before and after nurse led intervention

	Mean	SD	Mean difference	Calculated t value	p value
Pre-test	6.0	6.03	17.71	52.870	<0.001**
Post-test	23.71	1.42			

Considered significant at the 0.001 level, $t(328) = 1.967$ at the 0.05 level of significance. The data in the table clearly shows that there was a mean difference of 17.71 points between the pre-test knowledge score (6.0 ± 6.03) and the post-test knowledge score (23.71 ± 1.42). Compared to the value in the table (1.967), the computed t-value ($t 52.870$) was greater. The

obtained mean difference was a real difference, leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis and acceptance of the study hypothesis. At the 0.005 level of significance, the nurse-led intervention significantly improved the children's understanding. Even at the more stringent 0.001 threshold of significance, it was significant.

The results of the carers' pre- and post-tests on the topic of child abuse are discussed in this section. A score of 1 was assigned to each accurate answer, and only positive comments were considered. We used Bloom's cutoff point to convert the overall score to percentages.

Table: 2 Distribution of caretakers according to their knowledge regarding general concept on child abuse and physical abuse

Sl. No	Items	Pre-test		Post-test	
		f	%	f	%
1.	What do you mean by child abuse? A: Maltreatment to the child'	212	64.4	314	94.4
2.	The prevalence of child sexual abuse rate in India is approximately A:53%	140	42.6	306	93.0
3.	Types of child abuse are the following except A: Substance Abuse	146	44.4	305	92.7
4.	Factor that leads to child abuse are A: Unemployment and alcoholism	205	62.3	299	90.9
4.	Parent/Caregiver related risk factor for child abuse are the following except A: Good awareness about child abuse	99	30.1	303	92.1
6.	Child related risk factor leads to child abuse are the following except Excellent school performance	93	28.3	306	93.0
7.	Physical abuse is A: Physical harm or injury to the child	68	20.7	305	92.7
8.	Common types of physical abuse are A: Punching, Beating, Kicking	95	28.9	311	94.5
9.	In case of physical abuse possible signs on body are A: Injury or beating marks	76	23.1	300	91.2
10.	What are the behaviors of a physically abused				

child?	58	17.6	312	94.8
A: Frightened towards abuser				

What do you mean by child abuse? After the posttest, 314 out of 414 carers (or 94.4% of the total) got this question right, compared to 212 (64.4%) on the pretest. The prevalence of child sexual abuse rate in India is approximately: While 306 carers (93.0% of the total) got the question correctly on the posttest, 140 (42.6%) had prior knowledge of the topic. Types of child abuse are the following except: Although 146 carers (44.4%) were aware of this information before the exam, 305 (92.7%) got it right after the test.

Factor that leads to child abuse are: Of the carers who took the pretest, 205 (62.3%) got it right, whereas 299 (90.9%) got it right following the posttest. Parent/Caregiver related risk factor for child abuse is the following except: Only 99 out of 310 carers knew this knowledge before the exam, yet 303 out of 310 (or 92.3% of the total) got it right after the test. Child related risk factor leads to child abuse are the following except: Prior to the exam, 93 percent of carers were unaware of this, but after the test, that percentage rose to 306 percent. Physical abuse is: One of the most prevalent forms of child abuse is physical abuse. Of the carers who took the pretest, 68 (20.7%) were aware of this, whereas 305 (92.7%) were aware following the posttest.

Common types of physical abuse are: On the pretest, 68 carers were familiar with the forms of physical abuse; on the posttest, that number rose to 311 (or 94.5%). In case of physical abuse possible signs on body are: After the posttest, 300 out of 400 carers (91.2%) got the question right, compared to just 76 (23.1%) on the pretest. What are the behaviors of a physically abused child? In the pre-test, 58 carers (17.6%) were only aware of the behaviours of a physically abused kid; in the post-test, that number rose to 312 (94.8%).

Table: 3 Distribution of caretakers according to their knowledge regarding sexual abuse and emotional abuse.

Sl. No	Items	Pre-test		Post-test	
		f	%	f	%
11	Sexual abuse is A: Touching child body or genital	58	17.6	306	93.0
12	The child is at risk for sexual abuse is A: A child who is unprotected by family members	119	36.2	314	94.4
13	Types of sexual abuse are except A: Hand shaking	31	9.4	311	94.5
14.	How can you identify signs of sexual abuse? Blood-stained undergarments	146	44.4	307	93.3
14.	What could be the suggestive behavior of a child who is a victim of sexual abuse?	21	6.4	312	94.8

	A : Strong effort to avoid specific person				
16.	What is emotional abuse? A: Disturbing child mental wellbeing	57	17.3	311	94.5
17.	Common cause of emotional abuse are A: Over protection and punishment o child	71	21.6	310	94.2
18.	Types of emotional abuse are A: Constant scolding and shaming the child	119	36.2	309	93.9
19.	Possible signs of emotional abuse are A: Depression and fearful	142	43.2	312	94.8
20.	Suggestive behavior of a child with emotional abuse A: Social withdrawal	69	21.0	317	96.4

Sexual abuse is: Of the youngsters who took the pretest, 58 (17.6%) got it right, whereas 306 (93.2%) got it right on the posttest. The child is at risk for sexual abuse is: While 314 carers (or 94.4% of the total) answered the posttest with knowledge on this subject, only 119 (36.2%) did so in the pretest.

Types of sexual abuse are except: After the posttest, 311 (94.5%) of the carers were aware of the various forms of sexual abuse, up from 31 (9.4%) before the test. How can you identify signs of sexual abuse? After the posttest, the number of carers who were aware of this information grew from 126 (pretest) to 307 (posttest), a difference of 44.4%. What could be the suggestive behavior of a child who is a victim of sexual abuse? While 312 (94.8%) carers got this question right after the exam, just 21 (6.4%) got it right before.

Emotional abuse is one of the most prevalent forms of child abuse; 57 carers (17.3%) knew this before the exam and 311 carers (94.5%) knew it after the test. Among carers, 71 (or 21.6%) got it right on the pretest, but 310 (or 94.2%) got it right on the posttest, suggesting that this is a common source of emotional abuse. Types of emotional abuse are: Only 119 carers (36.2% of the total) got the kind of emotional abuse question right; however, 309 (93.9%) got it right following the posttest.

Possible signs of emotional abuse are: Only 142 (or 23.1%) of carers got this question right on the pretest, while 317 (or 96.4% of the total) got it right on the posttest. Suggestive behavior of a child with emotional abuse: fact was known by 69(21.0%) of the students on the pretest, and by 317(96.4%) on the posttest.

Table: 4 Distribution of caretakers according to their knowledge regarding neglect, effect of child abuse and preventive aspects of child abuse.

Sl. No	Items	Pre-test		Post-test	
		f	%	f	%
21	Child neglect is A: Not taking care the child	171	52.0	311	94.5
22	Common cause of child neglect is A: Alcohol or drug abuse of caretakers	73	22.2	316	96.0
23	Signs of child neglect are A: Dirty and untidy child	64	19.5	315	94.7
24	Long lasting effects observed in abused child are A: Psychological and emotional problems	91	27.7	315	94.7
25	What are the effects of child sexual abuse? A: Sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy	123	37.4	312	94.8
26	What are the psychological problems of child abuse? A: Depression and emotional disturbances	82	24.9	313	94.1
27	Teach the child A: To identify good and bad touch	46	14.0	317	96.4
28	What is immediate action to take if child is being abused? A: Report Incident to authorities	60	18.2	321	97.6
29	How to communicate with the child who is abused? A: Talk to the child gently by gaining the trust	45	12.7	310	94.7
30	How to approach the child who is abused? A: Reassure the child	7	2.1	315	94.7
31	What is "Child Line India"? Organization for child related issues	62	18.8	306	93.0
32	What is the emergency contact number of "Child Line India"? A: 1098	53	16.1	312	94.8

Child neglect is: While 311 (94.5%) of the carers got the question right following the posttest, only 171 (52.0%) got it right on the pretest. Cause of child neglect is: Of the carers who took the pretest, only 72 (or 22.2%) knew this, but following the posttest, 316 (or 96.0%) got it right. Signs of child neglect are: In the pretest, 64 carers (19.5%) knew nothing about this item; in the posttest, 315 (94.7%) did.

Long lasting effects observed in abused child are: This item's correct answer was Only 91 (or 27.7%) of carers got this question right on the pretest, whereas 315 (or 94.7%) got it right on the posttest. What are the effects of child sexual abuse? After the posttest, 312 (or 94.8% of the total) carers were aware of this information, up from 123 (37.3%) before the test. In what ways can child maltreatment manifest psychologically? After the posttest, 313 carers (or 94.1% of the total) gave the right answer, but just 82 (24.9%) did so on the pretest. Children should learn: The number of carers who were aware of this question rose from forty-six (14.0%) on the pretest to three hundred seventeen (96.4%) on the posttest.

When a kid is being mistreated, what should be done right away? In the pretest, 60 carers (18.2%) knew what to do immediately in the event of child abuse; in the posttest, that number rose to 321 (97.6%). How can one express themselves to an abused child? For the pre-test, just 45 carers (13.7%) were aware of After the posttest, 310 (or 94.2% of the total) students got the

question on how to talk to battered children correctly. What should one say to an abused child? Among the carers who took the pretest, only 7 (2.1%) were aware of this fact; nevertheless, 315 (94.7%) of those who took the posttest got it right. The "Child Line India"—what is it? Caretakers' knowledge of child line functions rose from 62 (18.8%) to 306 (93.1%) following the posttest.

Can someone tell me the "Child Line India" emergency contact number? Only 53 (16.1%) of carers knew this knowledge before the exam, while 312 (94.8%) got it right after the test. Area wise overall Knowledge of caretakers regarding child abuse before and after Nurse - led interventions Described here is the level of understanding that carers have about child abuse. According on the degree of understanding, the data is displayed as a frequency distribution and a percentage distribution.

Table 5: Area wise Range, Mean, Standard deviation, Median and Mean percentage of area wise knowledge regarding child abuse among caretakers before and after nurse led intervention.

Areas	Time	Range	Mean	SD	Median	Mean percentage
General concept	Pre-test	0-5	2.72	1.90	2.0	44.3
	Post-test	2-6	4.57	0.66	6.0	92.8
Physical	Pre-test	0-3	0.90	0.92	1.0	22.5
	Post-test	0-4	3.72	0.52	4.0	93.0
Sexual	Pre-test	0-5	1.14	1.11	1.0	22.8
	Post-test	1-5	4.71	0.58	4.0	94.2
Emotional	Pre-test	2-5	1.39	1.60	0	27.8
	Post-test	2-5	4.74	0.50	4.0	94.8

Neglect	Pre-test	0-3	0.94	0.96	1.0	31.3
	Post-test	1-3	2.86	0.38	3.0	94.3
Effect of child abuse	Pre-test	0-3	0.90	0.82	1.0	30.0
	Post-test	0-3	2.86	0.40	3.0	94.3
Preventive aspect	Pre-test	0-5	0.83	1.36	0	13.8
	Post-test	2-6	4.72	0.58	6.0	94.3

The results showed that the nurse-led intervention successfully improved the knowledge of the carers investigated, with mean percentage increases of 92.8 and above in all categories. Child neglect and the prevention of child abuse had the greatest increase in knowledge.

Knowledge of care takers regarding child abuse before and after Nurse -led interventions

Described here is the level of understanding that carers have about child abuse. Level of knowledge, range, median, standard deviation, and mean percentage are the ways the data is shown in frequency and percentage distribution.

Table 6: Distribution of care takers according to level of knowledge before and after nurse led intervention

Level of knowledge	Scoring	Pre-test		Post-test	
		f	%	f	%
Poor	0-16 (<60%)	286	86.9	1	0.3
Moderate	17-26 (60-79%)	43	13.1	10	3.0
Good	27-32 (80- 100%)			318	96.7

Previous to the nurse-led intervention, the majority of the 286 samples (86.9% of the total) exhibited inadequate knowledge, as seen in the table above. Table 318 shows that following the intervention, carers' knowledge increased significantly, reaching 96.7%.

Table 7: Range, Mean, Standard deviation, Median and Mean percentage of knowledge regarding child abuse among care takers before and after nurse led intervention.

	Range	Mean	SD	Median	Mean percentage
Pre-test	2-25	8.82	4.90	9.0	27.6
Post-test	13-32	30.19	1.89	31.0	94.3

Before and after the nurse-led intervention, the data in the table show the range, mean, standard deviation, median, and mean percentage of children's awareness of child abuse. According to the data, the average knowledge score after the exam (30.19 ± 1.89), which ranged from 13 to 32, was greater than the average score before the test (8.082 ± 4.90), which ranged from 2 to 24.

This section compared the level of awareness about child abuse among carers before to and during nurse-led intervention. The results clearly show that following the intervention, there was a significant increase in understanding. There was a greater degree of significance at the 0.001 level as well.

CONCLUSION

The verdict reached after considering the research results. The current research found that the nurse-led intervention successfully raised awareness of child abuse and changed people's attitudes towards the issue. The importance of primary prevention cannot be overstated when considering the wide range of negative effects that child abuse may have on a kid's healthy development, both physically and psychologically.

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