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A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING AWARENESS OF DANGER SIGNS OF PREGNANCY AMONG WOMEN AT SELECTED RURAL AREA NAGAPATTINAM

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ABSTRACT

The study was conduct knowledge on awareness regarding danger signs of pregnancy.A descriptive cross-sectional survey research design was adopted to assess the level of knowledge regarding the awareness of danger signs of pregnancy among women in Thethi Village, Nagapattinam. A sample of 30 women was selected by using a convenient sampling technique for the study. Data were collected by using a structured knowledge questionnaire regarding the danger signs of pregnancy. The questionnaire was administered to the selected participants to assess their level of awareness knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy. The collected data were analysed and interpreted based on the objectives of the study.

Result was found that majority of the participants were in the Age group of 21-30years (56.7%), Hindu religion (80.0%), had Graduate educational status (50.0%), were occupation by Unemployed (60.0%), had a Family monthly income of Rs 10,000-20,000 (33.3%), belonged to Nuclear type of family (56.7%), and Received information regarding pregnancy from media (46.7%).The study findings revealed that there was a statistically significant association between the level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy age, religion, education.

Keywords: Danger signs of pregnancy, Knowledge, Awareness, Women

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INTRODUCTION

"Safe motherhood begins with awareness and timely care."

Maternal health is one of the major indicators of the health status of a nation. Globally, thousands of women die every year due to pregnancy-related complications. According to the World Health Organization, many maternal deaths can be prevented through early detection, timely treatment, and adequate healthcare services. In developing countries, maternal mortality remains high due to lack of awareness, poverty, poor nutrition, illiteracy, delayed decision-making, and inadequate access to healthcare facilities. Rural women are particularly vulnerable because of limited health resources and transportation barriers.

During pregnancy. These signs require immediate medical attention to prevent serious outcomes. Some common danger signs include severe vaginal bleeding, swelling of face and hands, severe headache, blurred vision, high fever, severe abdominal pain, persistent vomiting, reduced fetal movement, convulsions, and leaking of fluid before labour. If these symptoms are ignored, they may lead to complications such as anemia, pre-eclampsia, eclampsia, infection, obstructed labour, premature birth, or even maternal and foetal death.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the knowledge regarding awareness of danger signs of pregnancy among women at selected rural area Nagapattinam.

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To assess the level of knowledge regarding danger signs of pregnancy among women.
- ❖ To assess the awareness regarding danger signs of pregnancy among women.
- ❖ To assess the association between level of knowledge and awareness regarding danger signs with selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHOD

A descriptive cross-sectional survey research design was adopted to assess the level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy among women in Thethi Village, Nagapattinam. A sample of 30 women was selected by using a convenient sampling technique for the study. Data were collected by using a structured knowledge questionnaire regarding the danger signs of pregnancy. The questionnaire was administered to the selected participants to assess their level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy. The collected data were analysed and interpreted based on the objectives of the

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study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings related to the demographic characteristics of the participants revealed that the majority of the participants were in the age group of 21-30years (56.7%), Hinds religion (80.0%), had Graduate educational status (50.0%), were occupation by Unemployed (60.0%), had a Monthly family income of Rs 10,000-20,000 (33.3%), belonged to nuclear Type of family (56.7%), and received information regarding pregnancy from media (46.7%).

Table - 1 : Frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding danger signs of pregnancy

N = 30

S.No	Level of knowledge	Level of score	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Inadequate	0-9	11	36.7
2.	Moderate	10-15	13	43.3
3.	Adequate	16-20	6	20.0

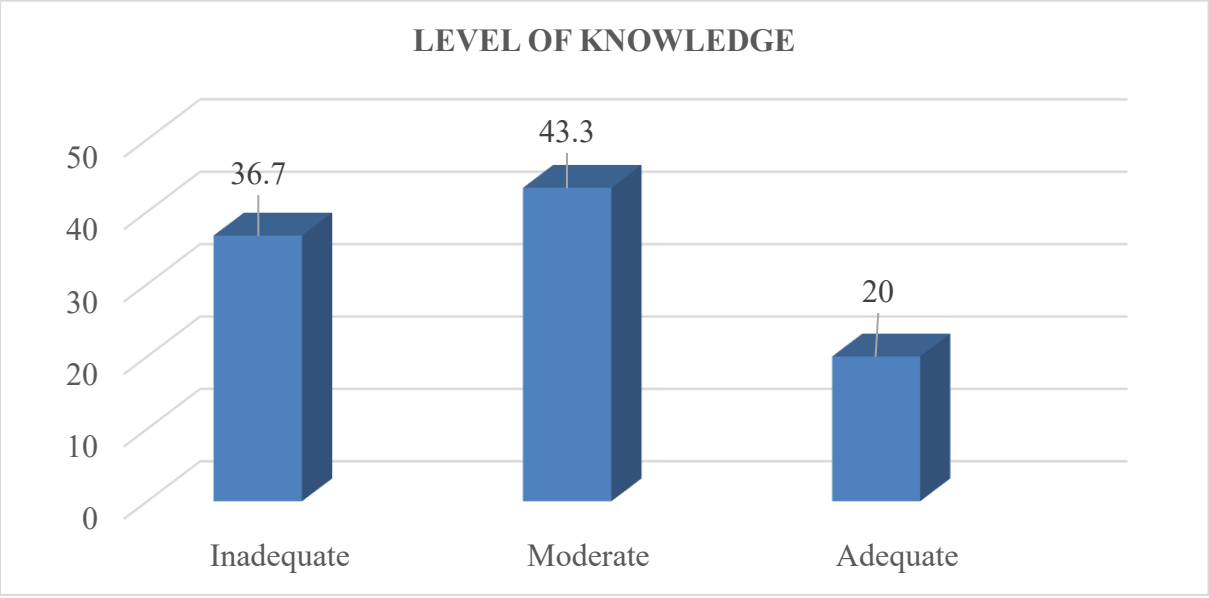


Figure 1 : Frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding danger signs of pregnancy

The findings related to the level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy showed that 36.7% of the participants had inadequate knowledge,43.3% had moderate knowledge, and 20% had

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adequate knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy.

Table - 2 : Association between the level of knowledge regarding danger signs of pregnancy and selected demographic variables

N = 30

S.NO	DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES	X^2 VALUE	DF	P – VALUE	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
1.	Age	18.312	4	0.001	Significant
2.	Religion	6.769	4	0.034	Significant
3.	Education status	17.587	8	0.025	Significant
4.	Occupational status	3.394	6	0.758	Not significant
5.	Monthly family income	3.798	6	0.704	Not significant
6.	Type of family	1.678	2	0.432	Not significant
7.	Source of information	0.882	4	0.927	Not significant

The findings related to the association between the level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy and selected demographic variables were analysed using the Chi-square test. The study findings revealed that there was a statistically significant association between the level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy age, religion, education status.
Age($x^{2=}$18.312,df=4,p=0.001)Religion(x^2=6.769,df=4,p=0.034)Education(x2=17.587,df=8,p=0.025) at the level of significance $p<0.05$. There was no statistically significant association between the level of knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy and occupational status, family monthly income, type of family and source of information.

IMPLICATION

Awareness of danger signs of pregnancy is essential for early identification of complications and timely healthcare seeking behaviour among pregnant women. Adequate knowledge helps reduce maternal and foetal morbidity and mortality. The findings of the study can be useful in improving awareness and promoting safe motherhood practices among women in rural areas.

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NURSING EDUCATION

- ❖ Nursing curriculum should emphasize maternal health and danger signs of pregnancy to prepare nursing students for effective health education.
- ❖ Nursing students should be encouraged to conduct awareness programmes regarding danger signs of pregnancy among rural women.
- ❖ Educational materials such as pamphlets, charts, and audiovisual aids can be utilized to improve knowledge among women.

NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Nurse administrators should arrange training programmes for healthcare workers regarding maternal health education.

- ❖ Adequate educational resources should be made available in rural health centres.
- ❖ Regular monitoring and evaluation of health education activities should be encouraged.

NURSING RESEARCH

- ❖ Nursing research is scientific inquiry that provides evidence to support nursing practices, enhance patient care, and contribute to the development of the nursing profession.
- ❖ The present study can motivate nurses to conduct further research regarding maternal health awareness and safe motherhood practice.
- ❖ The findings of the study may help nurses to improve health education programmes and promote early identification of pregnancy complications.
- ❖ Research studies can improve knowledge, attitude, and practice of women regarding antenatal care and danger signs of pregnancy.

NURSING SERVICE

- ❖ The nurse needs to take up the responsibility to create awareness on the danger signs of pregnancy.
- ❖ Nurse should take the responsibility to conduct the health camp regarding danger signs of pregnancy among women.
- ❖ Nurses are health care providers can provide health education pamphlets to improve the knowledge on danger signs of pregnancy among women.

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RECOMMENDATION

- A descriptive study can be conducted among antenatal mothers attending hospital and primary health centre.
- A comparative study can be conducted between rural and urban women regarding awareness of danger signs of pregnancy.
- An interventional study can be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programmes on awareness of danger signs of pregnancy.

CONCLUSION

The present study was conducted to assess the level of knowledge regarding awareness of danger signs of pregnancy among women in Thethi Village, Nagapattinam. The study findings revealed that a considerable proportion of the participants had moderate knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy. Hence, there is a need to improve awareness and knowledge regarding the danger signs of pregnancy among women in rural areas. Adequate knowledge about the danger signs of pregnancy may help women to recognize complications early and seek appropriate health care services in a timely manner.

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