

**EFFECT OF HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM ON KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES
RELATED TO COMMON REPRODUCTIVE TRACT INFECTIONS****Prof. S. Pappy Yuvarani***

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Article Received on 29/07/2018

Article Revised on 19/08/2018

Article Accepted on 09/09/2018

ABSTRACT

Background: Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) is a global health problem including both sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and non sexually transmitted infections of the reproductive tract. World Health Organization estimates that each year there are over 340 million new cases of sexually transmitted infections in which 75-85% occur in developing countries. In India alone, 40 million new cases emerge each year. The purpose of the study was to assess the effect of health education programme on knowledge and practices related to common selected reproductive tract infections in rural area of tamilnadu. Research approach adopted for this study was quasi-experimental and study design was pre-test, post-test two group study design was used.

KEYWORDS: Health Education, Knowledge, Practices, Reproductive Tract Infections.

INTRODUCTION

Health care of the women of child bearing age has been given due attention and importance, through various maternal and child health programs. Reproductive tract infections (RTI's) among women aged 15-45, is increasing in India. In rural areas, the lack of awareness and health facilities in turn lead to a high incidence of STDs/ RTIs. Illiteracy, unhealthy lifestyle, burden of gynaecological and obstretical conditions and procedures, strong traditional culture and practices put the Indian women at higher risk of acquiring Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs).

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge of the women about to the common reproductive tract infections in control and experimental groups
2. To assess the effect of planned health education programme In experimental and control group
3. To find the association between knowledge and practices regarding common reproductive tract infections with selected demographic variables in control and experimental group.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Quasi-experimental approach was used to evaluate the effect of health education program on knowledge and practices related to common selected reproductive tract infections among the married women in rural area of Pune District and its effectiveness was determined statistically. The study was conducted in the rural areas

RESULTS

Major findings of the study. Findings related to demographic variables: Majority of the women in both the groups were married between 18-22 years of age, In experimental group, 64.3% of them had irregular menstrual pattern and 35.7% of them had regular menstrual pattern. In control group, 64.1% of them had irregular menstrual pattern and 35.9% of them had regular menstrual pattern. Majority of them of them had normal and hospital deliveries Regarding contraceptive use in partners in experimental group, 7.6% of the husbands were using nirodh and 3.5% of them had vasectomy. In control group, 7.1% of the husbands were using nirodh and 2.8% of them had vasectomy In experimental group, only 19% of them had participation of the partner. In control group only 21.7% of them had participation of the partner.

CONCLUSION

The findings of the study reveal that health education programme is effective to improve the knowledge. Health care of the women of child bearing age has been given due attention and importance, through various maternal and child health programs

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