



A Descriptive Study To Assess The Parenting Behaviour Having Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) In Selected Area Of Himachal Pradesh.

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Abstract

The research design selected for the study was descriptive study design. Pilot study was conducted for one week on six samples in Himachal Pradesh. After conducting pilot study, a total of 50 Parents of having autism spectrum disorder children were selected by purposive sampling technique. The main study was conducted in Himachal Pradesh. Data was collected using questionnaire. The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The study concluded that there is no significance association between the level of scores and other demographic variables (Age, gender, religion, educational status, monthly income, Knowledge regarding ASD, Sources of Information and training attended). The calculated chi-square values were less than the table value at the 0.05 level of significance.

Key Words: Parenting Behaviour, Autism Spectrum Disorder

Introduction

Autism is one of five developmental disorders included under the umbrella of the Pervasive Developmental Disorder. It is a complex neurodevelopment disorder, characterized by social impairments, communication difficulties, and restricted, repetitive, and stereotyped patterns of behaviour. Health experts believe that since the first signs usually appear before a child is three years old, early detection of this incurable disease can help a child lead his full potential.

World Autism Facts and Statistics showed that about 1 percent of the world population has autism spectrum disorder. Prevalence in the United States is estimated at 1 in 68 births and increased by 119.4 percent from 2000 to 2010.3 India is home to about 10 million people with Autism and the disability has shown an increase over the last few years. According to statistics by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in every 88 children today is born with autism spectrum disorder. (Uttam A 2012)

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the behaviour of parents having autism spectrum disorder children
2. To assess the association between parent's behaviour of ASD Children with their demographic variables.

Methodology

A quantitative research approach with non-experimental descriptive research design was adopted for this study. This study included 50 parents of Autism Spectrum Children's at selected Autism Schools in Himachal Pradesh. The sample were selected with the help of convenient sampling technique in natural setting. Prior permission was obtained from medical Officers of selected autism schools Asha Kiran divyang shiksha Sansthan (Himachal Pradesh) to

conduct the final study for parents of autism spectrum disorder children. The investigator utilized the purposive sampling technique to select the study subject. Data Was collected with the help of interview schedule of behaviour scale. Investigator personally visited each respondent, introduce herself to the parents and explained the purpose of the study and ascertained the willingness of the participants.

Findings of the study

Section I: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of Parents having autism spectrum disorder children.

According to age, maximum 16(32%) OPD Parents were in age group of 36-40 years followed by 13 (26%) were 41-46 year of age, 11 (22%) was >46 years of age and minimum 10 (20%) parents were in 30-35 years of age group. Regarding gender distribution, maximum 56(52%) parents were females and minimum 24(48%) were males. As regards to educational status, maximum patients 45(45%) were up to 1st to 10th standard, followed by 24(24%) patients were up to 11th to 12th standard, 28(28%) patients were graduation and above and minimum 3(3%) patients were illiterate. On the basis of educational status, maximum parent 16(32%) patients have higher education, followed by 13(26%) were Primary education, 12(24%) parents had graduation and minimum 9(18%) were illiterate. On the basis of Duration of Illness of Children Maximum 20(40%) children has 4- 5years duration, followed by 10(20%) 1-3 years duration, followed by 10(20%) 6-8 years duration and 10(20%) >8years of duration. As per monthly family income (in rupees), highest 21 (42%) parents had monthly family income of Rs.20000-30000, followed by 14(28%) parents with 30000-40000, followed by 12(24%) parents with Rs 10000-20000 and least 3(6%) patients with monthly family income of Rs >40000 On the Basis of Knowledge regarding ASD, Maximum 27(54%) parents having knowledge about ASD and 23(46%) parents has no knowledge. On the basis of source of information, maximum 19(38%) Parents get information through internet, followed by 17(34%) parents enhance knowledge through printed media, 9(18%) parents get information from friends and minimum 5(10%) parents get information from medical personal. On the Basis of Training attend, Maximum 26(52%) parents were attended training classes and 24(48%) parents were not attended.

Section II: Assessment of Behaviour of Parents having autism spectrum disorder children.

1. Each question wise percentage of parenting behaviour of parents having autism spectrum disorder children

Frequency	Mean	Standard Deviation
50	55.02	24.756

Table 1: depicted the mean and standard deviation of level of parenting behaviour of parents having autism spectrum disorder in selected autism schools. The data revealed that the mean of barrier score in subjects with parenting behaviour was 55.02 followed by standard deviation 24.756.

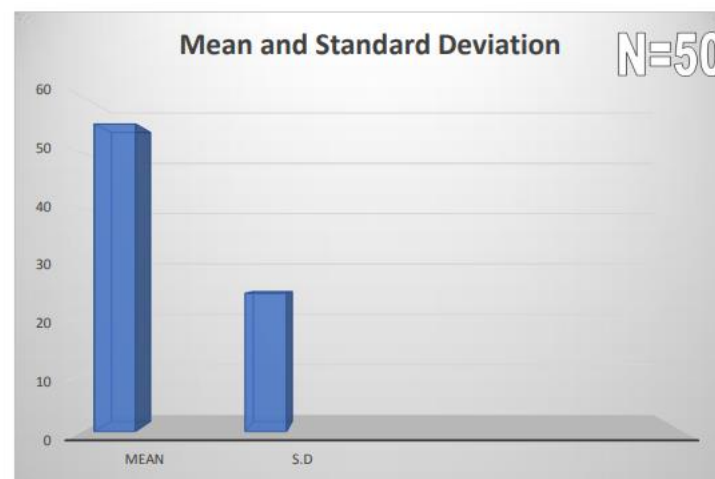


Figure 1: Bar Diagram representing frequency distribution mean and S.D of subject as per Sources of Information.

2. To assess the Level of Parenting Behaviour of parents having autism spectrum disorder children

Level of Behaviour	No. of Parents	Percentage
Good Behaviour	27	54
Average Behaviour	22	44
Poor Behaviour	1	2
Total	50	100

Table 2: depicts that maximum 31(62%) patients had Good Behaviour followed by 19(38%) Parents had Moderately good behaviour and 1(2%) parent had poor behaviour.

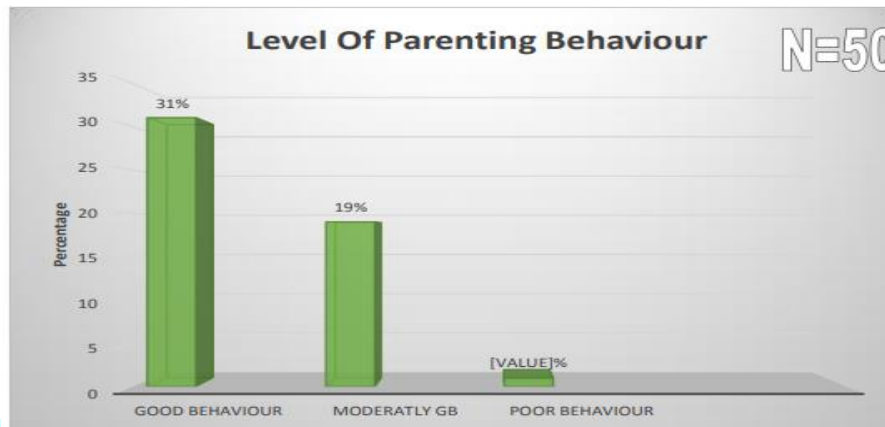


Figure 2: Bar Diagram representing frequency distribution of subject as per Level of Parenting Behaviour

Section III: Assessment of association between socio demographic variable of parents having autism spectrum disorder children

Chi square values showing the association between the level of score and socio demographic variable. Based on the objective used to Chi-square test used to associate the level of knowledge and selected demographic variables. There is significance association between the level of scores and Duration of illness. The calculated chi-square values were less than the table value at the 0.05 level of significance.

Discussion

India is home to about 10 million people with Autism and the disability has shown an increase over the last few years. According to statistics by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in every 88 children today is born with autism spectrum disorder. (Uttam A 2012)

In the current study there was no significance association between the level of scores and other demographic variables (Age, gender, religion, educational status, monthly income, Knowledge regarding ASD, Sources of Information and training attended). The calculated chi-square values were less than the table value at the 0.05 level of significance.

Limitations of the study

The study is limited only those

- to the parents having autism spectrum disorder children
- Sample size limited to 50 parents having autism spectrum disorder children
- Period of study is limited to 4-6 weeks.

Conclusion

After the detailed analysis, this study leads to the following conclusion: -

The present study was undertaken by the investigator for assess the parenting behaviour having children with autism spectrum disorder in selected area of Himachal Pradesh. The study was descriptive in nature having 50 and interpretation was done in accordance with the objectives laid down for the study. The independent variables included in the study were Age, gender, religion, educational status, monthly income (in rupees) Duration of children illness, knowledge regarding ADS, training attend and Source of information, independent variables were autism spectrum disorder Children. The self-

structured multi-scale tool was used in the study. The study was concluded that there was no significance association between the level of scores and other demographic variables (Age, gender, religion, educational status, monthly income, Knowledge regarding ASD, Sources of Information and training attended). The calculated chi-square values were less than the table value at the 0.05 level of significance.

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