



INTERACTION OF EDUCATIONAL STATUS ON CHILD IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE

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Abstract : Kerala is a state with high Life expectancy, low infant mortality rate, birth rate and death rate. Health literacy rate also is high in this state. Free Immunization to children since birth is provided by this state. Government is providing health awareness to the public through Aasha workers. Most of the people are welcoming this. Still very few populations are reluctant to take this vaccination to their children. Uneducated parents are against the vaccination. Even after the continuous awareness from Govt health workers, they are not ready to give vaccinations to their children. 1% of population is very non cooperative to government health policies. They prefer to deliver in home without any proper medical care. They are completely against vaccinations due to their religious believes. Educated parents are welcoming Govt policies and properly taking vaccinations. Lack of proper education and the seriousness of the deadly diseases among parents are major reasons for reluctancy to government's Immunization programme among children.

Keywords : Interaction, Educational status, Immunization coverage.

INTRODUCTION

Kerala is a southern state of India. The health care services in Kerala were appreciated in global level in many times. During the spread of epidemics like Nipa and Covid, steps taken by Kerala Govt to stop the spreading of these epidemics were appreciated in international level. Government is providing free immunization for newborn baby onwards through government hospitals and Anganwadi's. There is a team called 'Aasha' workers to help for the successful implementation of these schemes. They give awareness to public about the need of these Vaccinations. Many people are not utilizing these facilities available to them. Immunization helps us to reduce the risk of getting few deadly diseases. BCG is given at birth. Hepatitis B, OPV, Pentavalent, Measles DTP booster are few examples of these Immunizations given between 0 months to 5 years. We could eradicate many risky diseases due to the implementation of very good Immunization in Children. It is the responsibility of each and every parent to give proper vaccination to their children. Govt frequently revise their Immunization schedule. It starts since the pregnancy. Every woman who is pregnant has to register in govt hospital once they confirmed pregnancy. They provide a booklet once they register. In the booklet all details regarding children Immunization details should be explained. Kerala government warned the public that if they refuse to give vaccination to their children, it is considered as a punishable offence.

OBJECTIVES

- To know about the effectiveness of Kerala government's children Immunization system
- To analyze the public response on Immunization programme of Kerala government

METHODOLOGY

Primary data was collected from 55 people of Valancherry Municipality, Malappuram District, Kerala. The parents of children between age group 0-5 years were selected for this study.

Chi square test was used to find the relation between education of parents and their attitude towards Immunization among children.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The Health Care System in Kerala__ Its Past Accomplishments and New Challenges (Koji NABAE)

Kerala's health sector was praised by many countries. The health care services can be divided into three namely Allopathy, Ayurveda and Homeopathy. As per the study the needs of public is unable to meet by this public health sector. The Govt is unable to give much control over private sector hospitals. Govt should invest more in health sector by increasing its tax rate. There should be a mutual cooperation between private and public health sectors. The authorities make sure that all the unused resources are fully utilized for the effective functioning.

Emerging challenges in the health systems of Kerala, India: qualitative analysis of literature reviews (Manesh Muraleedharan, Alaka Omprakash Chandak)

Kerala is providing very good Health care system. High proportion of Kerala adults are suffering from Hypertension, Diabetics etc. It will lead to Chronic issues like Heart related issues and Kidney failures. In many cases late treatments may lead to issues like stroke. High morbidity and low insurance coverage ratio in Kerala lead to financial problems. The raises of Non-Communicable Diseases are a major issue faced by almost all developing nations. But Kerala is a very good example to fight with these issues. Socio economic inequalities are higher in urban areas here. It effects in the distribution of health care infrastructure too. Districts like Wayanad and Kasargode are not having enough health care services.

Kerala Experience of Health Care Services (Rokkamounika 2000)

Utilization of Maternal care services by tribal women in Kerala (Jinu Annie Jose, Sonali Sarkar.S, Ganesh kumar and Sitanshu Sekhar Kar)

Maternal health care in tribal is better in Kerala than any other state. These women facing the issue of lack of education, transport facilities etc. Many women gave birth to their babies before reaching to hospitals due to this transportation issue. Health care workers worked hard to give awareness to these populations. The study was undertaken in Thariode Panchayath in Wayanad district Kerala. Since most of the tribal people are economically weak, they couldn't even bare the expenses of bystander during hospitalization. So, some of them hesitate to visit hospitals.

Government is taking fruitful steps for full immunization of children in the state. Health care workers are giving awareness by visiting the houses of those people who are not cooperative. Comparing to previous years, as per the information of health care workers, the number of people who hesitate to provide vaccinations to their children were reduced a lot. Of course, it takes time to come out of the penetrated believes against the vaccination. Even educated and well parents are forgetting to give vaccinations to their children after 3 years because of their busy work schedules.

FINDINGS**Educational qualification**

	Observed N	Expected N	Residual
below 10	18	18.3	-.3
plus two	31	18.3	12.7
graduate	6	18.3	-12.3
Total	55		

Immunization status

	Observed N	Expected N	Residual
fully immunized as per page	50	18.3	31.7
partially immunized	4	18.3	-14.3
Unimmunized	1	18.3	-17.3
Total	55		

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OF PARENTS AND IMMUNIZATION OF THEIR CHILDREN

Test Statistics

	Educational qualification	Immunization status
Chi-Square(a)	17.055	82.291
Df	2	2
Asymp. Sig.	.000	.000

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected frequencies less than 5. The minimum expected cell frequency is 18.3.

A Chi-square statistic is one way to show a relationship between two categorical variables. In statistics, there are two types of variables: numerical and non-numerical variables.

H0: There is no significant relationship between educational qualification of parents and Immunization of their children.

H1: There is significant relation between educational qualification of parents and Immunization of their children.

INTERFERENCE

Since Pearson Chi-Square variable is less than 0.5, the null hypothesis is rejected, and alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is significant relation between educational qualification of parents and Immunization of their children.

CONCLUSION

Health care system in Kerala deserves appreciation. During the spread of epidemics like Nipa, Covid etc the health care workers in Kerala got appreciation in many times. Central government decentralized the health care system to each state. Health care workers of Kerala working hard to give awareness to the people regarding effectiveness and necessity of Immunization to the children, some uneducated parents are still hesitated to give vaccinations to their children. But the majority population is welcoming this Immunization. Thus, we can eradicate many chronic diseases.

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