



# A QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL STUDY TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF STRUCTURED TEACHING PROGRAMME ON KNOWLEDGE REGARDING WORM INFESTATION AMONG MOTHERS OF UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN IN SELECTED RURAL AREAS OF DISTRICT AMRITSAR, PUNJAB

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## ABSTRACT

A quasi-experimental study to assess the effectiveness of a structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under-five children in selected rural areas of district Amritsar, Punjab. A quasi-experimental research approach with one group pre-test and post-test design was adopted. A randomized purposive sampling technique was used for the selection of 60 mothers. Data was gathered by structured questionnaires related to various aspects of worm infestation. Data was collected from the community of district Amritsar.

**Keywords:** Structured Teaching Programme, Knowledge, worm infestation, under- five children

## INTRODUCTION

Children are more valuable assets for society. Today's children are the builders of future nations. Their being is the basic concern of every nation. A healthy child brings happiness to the entire family. Worm infestation refers to the invasion of worms. Worms are parasites that infest to keep living with the host with minimal or even without any symptoms or complaints. Worm infestation is common in children all over the world. Worms may be of many sizes and shapes from microscopic pinworms to tapeworms that are several feet long. These worms live in the intestine.

**OBJECTIVES: -**

1. To assess the pre-test knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in one group pre-test post-test design.
2. To assess the post- test knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in one group pre- test post- test design.
3. To compare the pre- test and post- test knowledge score regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in one group pre- test post- test design.
4. To find out the association between the post-test knowledge score of experimental groups with their selected socio-demographic variables.

**METHODOLOGY**

A quantitative research approach with one group pre-test and post-test design and a non-probability method of purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample. The study was used to assess the effectiveness of a structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children. The present study has a target population consisting of all mothers of under-five children in a selected rural community area of Amritsar, Punjab. The sample is a representative portion of the population for the study here sample was 60 mothers of under five children. Data was analyzed and interpreted using descriptive and inferential statistics. Prior commencing to data collection the investigator had obtained formal permission to collect the data.

**Findings of the study****Findings related to sample characteristics of mothers of under-five children**

The sample characteristics shows frequency is of age group 20-25 yrs which is 32[53.33%] then above 35 yrs which is 15[25%], age group 30-35yrs has 8[13.33%] least is of age group 25-30yrs which is 5[8.34%], majority belongs to literate 50[90%] and minority 10[10%], data depict that percentage of distribution of subjects on basis family, majority 24[40%] belong to nuclear family, followed by joint family 17[28.34%] followed by extended family 11[18.33%] and least in single family with 8[13.33%] each, percentage of distribution of subjects on basis of source information, majority of data shows highest frequency belong to house-wife 45[75%] and lowest belong to working women 15[25%], percentage of distribution of subjects on basis family income, data shows majority belong to Less than Rs 5000 20[33%], then to Rs 5000-10000, Rs 11000-15000 15[25%] and then to above 15000 10[17%],

**Table 1: Pretest frequency distribution of knowledge subjects regarding the prevention of worm infestation among mothers of under five children.**

Pre-test Level of Knowledge	Frequency N=50	Percentage%
Inadequate Knowledge Up to 33.3%	34	56.67%=57%
Moderately Adequate Knowledge 33.3%-66.6%	16	26.66%=27%
Adequate Knowledge >66.6%	10	16.66%=17%
Total	60	100%

Table 1 The table shows the percentage distribution of study subjects according to the pretest awareness level.

The table shows that the knowledge score is the highest frequency of inadequate knowledge 34 [56.67%], then belongs to moderately adequate knowledge 16 [26.66%] and minimum belongs to adequate knowledge 10 [16.66%].

**Table 2: Post-test frequency distribution of knowledge subjects regarding prevention of worm infestation among mothers of under five children.**

N=60

Post-test level of awareness	Frequency	Percentage%
Inadequate awareness Up to 51%	5	8.33%=8%
Moderately Adequate awareness 51-80%	15	25%
Adequate awareness >80%	40	66.66%=67%
Total	60	100%

Table 2 Percentage distribution of study subjects according to Post-test awareness level.

The table shows that the knowledge score is high in the adequate group 40[67%] followed by the moderately adequate group 15[30%] and least in the inadequate group 5[8.33%].

## Association between post-test awareness and demographic variables

The association reveals that the significance of the study was found with variables education, type of family, and occupation at p values of [0,03,0.04 and 0.07] respectively. The study is not significant with age and family monthly income.

## DISCUSSION

The present study was A quasi-experimental study to assess the effectiveness of a structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in selected rural areas of district Amritsar, Punjab.

Objective 1: To assess the pre-test knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in one group pre-test post-test design.

The findings of this objective from present study reveal that the maximum number belongs to inadequate knowledge 34[56.67%], then belong to moderately adequate knowledge 16[26.66%] and the minimum belongs to adequate knowledge 10[16.66%]. Hence, it concluded that the inadequate knowledge group has a maximum score of 34 [57%].

These findings are supported by a similar study conducted by S Parathaban (2010) conducted a study to assess the knowledge and practices regarding worm infestation among the mothers of school-age children (6-12 yrs) in order to develop health education pamphlet at Paruvachl, Erode district. The result was that 39% of mothers have inadequate knowledge, 42% have moderately adequate knowledge and 19% have adequate knowledge.

Objective 2: To assess the post-test knowledge regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in one group pre-test and post-test design.

The findings of this objective from the present study reveal that the maximum number belongs to adequate group 40[67%] followed by moderately adequate group 15[30%] and least by inadequate group 5[8.33%]. Hence, it concluded that the inadequate knowledge group has a maximum score of 40 [67%].

Objective 3: To compare the pre-test and post-test knowledge scores regarding worm infestation among mothers of under five children in one group pre-test and post-test design.

The findings of this objective from present study reveal that the mean, median and SD of the pretest was 11.32, 12 and 3.16 respectively and of the post-test were 21.60, 30, and 2.16 respectively

Objective 4: To find out the association between the post-test knowledge score of experimental group with their selected socio-demographic variables.

The findings of this objective from present study reveal that the significance of the study was found with variables education, type of family, and occupation at p-values of [0,03,0.04 and 0.07] respectively. The study is not significant with age and family monthly income.

## LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY: -

The study is limited to: -

- The mothers of under-five children in the rural community of Amritsar district.
- Mothers who are willing to participate in the study.
- Mothers who are not interested in the study.
- A similar study can be done among tribal children.
- A study can be conducted in different areas.

**CONCLUSION: -**

The present study assessed the knowledge and practices of mothers regarding worm infestation among under-five children. The result revealed that the majority 40% of the mothers have adequate knowledge regarding worm infestation. Demographic variables have an influence on the knowledge and practices of mothers regarding worm infestation among mothers of under-five children.

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