



“A Descriptive Study To Assess The Anxiety Level Of Tuberculosis Patients On ATT Medication And Covid Vaccination During Covid-19 Pandemic In Khadoli, Meerut”

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Abstract: “A descriptive study to assess the anxiety level with tuberculosis patient regarding ATT medication and COVID vaccination during COVID-19 pandemic in selected community areas Meerut. OBJECTIVE of the study was to assess anxiety level of tuberculosis patients on ATT medication and COVID vaccination during COVID-19 and to find out the association between the level of anxiety regarding ATT medication and COVID vaccination during COVID-19 with the selected demographic variables. Based on the objectives samples were collected from 60 tuberculosis patients in selected community areas Meerut. Tools were prepared both in English and Hindi to assess the level of anxiety of tuberculosis patients and COVID- 19. Tools had two sections: demographic variables and anxiety checklist which were validated by 5 experts. RESULT In the present study majority of the samples 30 (50%) had moderated anxiety whereas 14 (23%) had mild anxiety levels and the remaining samples 16 (27%) had severe anxiety. It is also found that there was no significant association between any of the demographic variables and anxiety level. The main conclusion of this study was that the anxiety level of tuberculosis patients on ATT medications and COVID vaccination were moderate compared to high and poor, which could further be improved through continuous awareness and health educational programs on ATT medication, COVID vaccination and COVID as a whole.

I. INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis (TB) persists as a serious public health problem worldwide, despite the advances in controlling the disease in recent years. In addition the incidence of TB is directly related to the increase in poverty, the unequal distribution of income and the accelerated increase in urbanization in large centers. The insufficient control of TB points to the need for effective public health measures. Novel corona virus disease (Covid-19) originating from china has rapidly crossed borders, infecting people throughout the whole world. Pandemics can lead to heightened levels of stress; anxiety is a common response to any stressful situation. As Covid-19 is a new disease and are having the most devastating effects globally, its emergence and spread, causes confusion, anxiety and fear among the general public. Fear is the breeding ground for hatred and stigma. Social stigma has arisen as certain populations (Indian north-east people) are targeted as being the reason for this outbreak (WHO, 2020). It is vital to avoid this stigma as it can make people hide their illness and not seek health care immediately. WHO is providing experts guidance and

answers to public questions, to help people manage fear, stigma, and discrimination during COVID-19 (WHO, 2020). However, the medical and social consequences of association of TB and COVID-19 are not clearly understood and experience on COVID-19 in TB patients and vice versa are limited. There are certain similarities and differences between the two diseases. Limited and preliminary observations suggest that TB infection is likely to increase susceptibility to SARS-CoV-2 with increased COVID-19 severity. If it will have a major effect impact in India as one third of its population is infected with TB. There are striking similarities between the two. Both cause major infection-related morbidity and mortality. While COVID-19 has caused over 0.5 million deaths so far over a period of 6 months, TB was the leading cause of mortality from an infectious disease worldwide in 2018, causing 1-2 million deaths out of the nearly 10 million new cases reported that year.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To assess the level of anxiety regarding ATT medication & COVID vaccination during COVID-19 pandemic among patients with tuberculosis.
2. To find out the association between the level of anxiety regarding ATT medication & COVID vaccination during COVID-19 pandemic with selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS:

H1 – There will be a significant level of anxiety regarding ATT medication & COVID vaccination during COVID-19 pandemic among patients with tuberculosis.

H2 – There will be a significant association between anxiety level of patients with tuberculosis with their selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Quantitative research approach is used in the study to find the level of anxiety among tuberculosis patients and the research design selected for the present study is non experimental descriptive research design. The dependent variable in this study is the level of anxiety among tuberculosis patients under ATT medications whereas the independent variable is tuberculosis patients in selected community area, Meerut. The study was conducted in selected Community area, Meerut and the patients affected with tuberculosis and those in ATT medications were the population from which 60 samples who met the inclusion criteria and who were available during the period of data collection were selected for the study. Convenient sampling technique and the tool was developed both in English and Hindi and it had 2 sections: Baseline Performa and Section B: structured anxiety checklist.

Scoring procedure: The minimum score of one mark and the maximum score of 3 marks were given based on their answers which mean minimum possible score is 10 and a maximum possible score was set as 30. For the purpose of this study the resulting anxiety level scores was classified as shown in table 1

TABLE 1

Mild Anxiety	10 - 16
Moderate Anxiety	17 - 23
Severe Anxiety	24 - 30

The structured tool was validated by experts in the field of nursing and Statistics. The suggestions given by the experts were incorporated in finalization of the tool and the reliability of the tool was established by split half reliability method. The obtained reliability co-efficient was high. ($r = 0.80$). Thus the tool was considered to be reliable.

DATA COLLECTION:

The period for data collection was one week. A sample of 60 was selected from the community area using convenient sampling technique. The purpose of conducting the study, benefits and needs was well explained to the subjects and rapport was established with the study subjects. Both verbal and written consents were obtained from each subject giving them assurance of confidentiality. Each subject was given the anxiety checklist separately privately and given a time of 20-30 minutes per subject and the data analysis was done according to the objectives of the study, using the descriptive and inferential statistics. The demographic variables were analyzed using descriptive statistics and Chi-square test was used for finding the association between the anxiety levels with the selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Data gathered were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The analysis of the data has been organized in relation to the objectives and hypotheses of the study. The data collected from the samples has been organized and presented under the following headings:

Section I: Frequency and percentage distribution of the socio-demographic variables.

Section II: Analysis of anxiety levels of tuberculosis patients on ATT medications and Covid vaccination during Covid-19.

Section III: Association of anxiety level scores of samples with selected socio-demographic variables.

TABLE 2: DISTRIBUTION OF AGE OF THE SUBJECTS

DEMOGRAPHICVARIABLE	No. (N=60)	PERCENTAGE (%)
AGE(IN YEARS)		
<20YEARS	12	20%
21-40years	25	42%
41-60years	16	26%
>61years	07	12%

Table 2, depicts the distribution of age of the subjects where majority of the subjects, 25 (42%) were between 21-40 years, 16 (26%) were between 41-60 years, 12 (20%) were less than 20 years and a minimum of 7 subjects (12%) were more than 61 years of age.

TABLE 3: DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER OF THE SUBJECTS

SL.NO	DEMOGRAPHICVARIABLE	No. (N=60)	PERCENTAGE (%)
2	SEX		
	Male	43	72
	Female	17	28

Table 3, depicts the gender distribution of the subjects which shows that majority of 43 (72%) subjects were males and remaining 17 (28%) subjects were females.

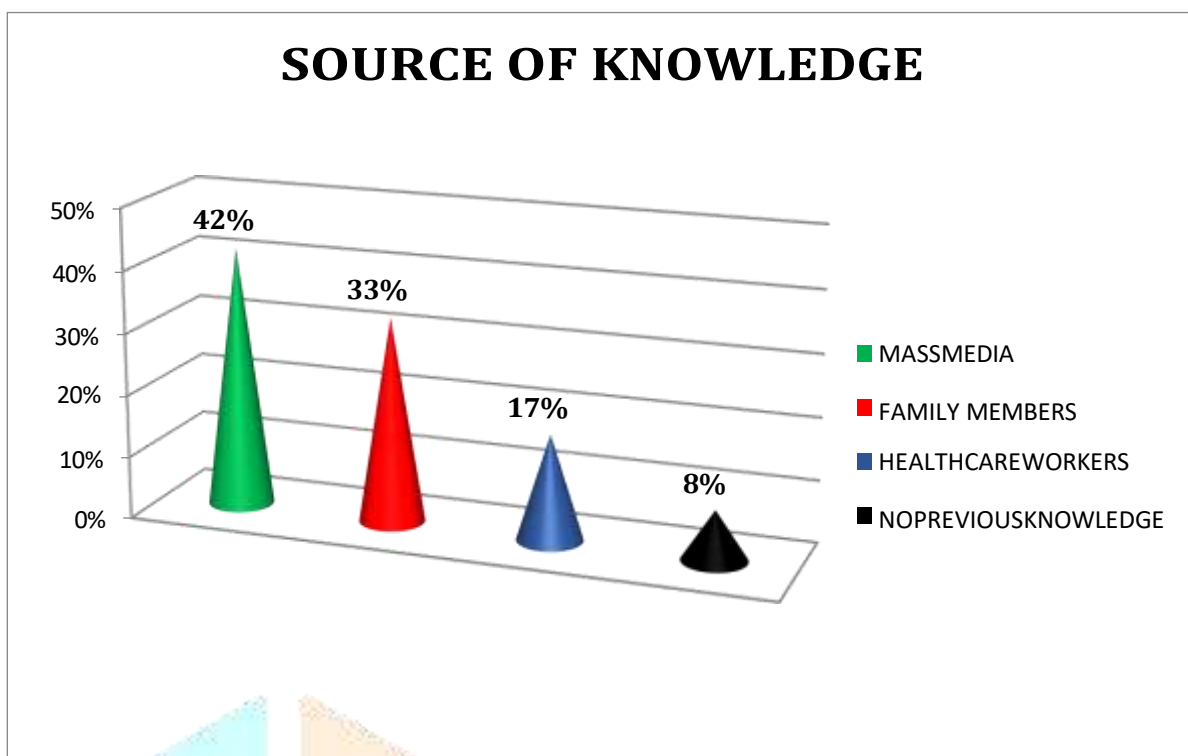


FIGURE 1: SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE

With regard to source of knowledge of the subjects on covid-19, a majority of 25 (42%) had previous knowledge through Mass media followed by 20 (33%) of subjects had knowledge from family members. 10(17%) gained knowledge from health care workers and only 5 (8%) had no previous knowledge.

TABLE 4: ANXIETY LEVEL OF PATIENTS ON ATT MEDICATIONS AND COVID VACCINATION.

S.NO	LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE	FREQUENCY (F)	PERCENTAGE (%)
1	MILDANXIETY	14	23%
2	MODERATE ANXIETY	30	50%
3	SEVEREANXIETY	16	27%

Table 4 depicts that majority of the samples 30 (50%) had moderated anxiety whereas 16(27%) had severe anxiety and the least of 14 (23%) of samples had mild anxiety.

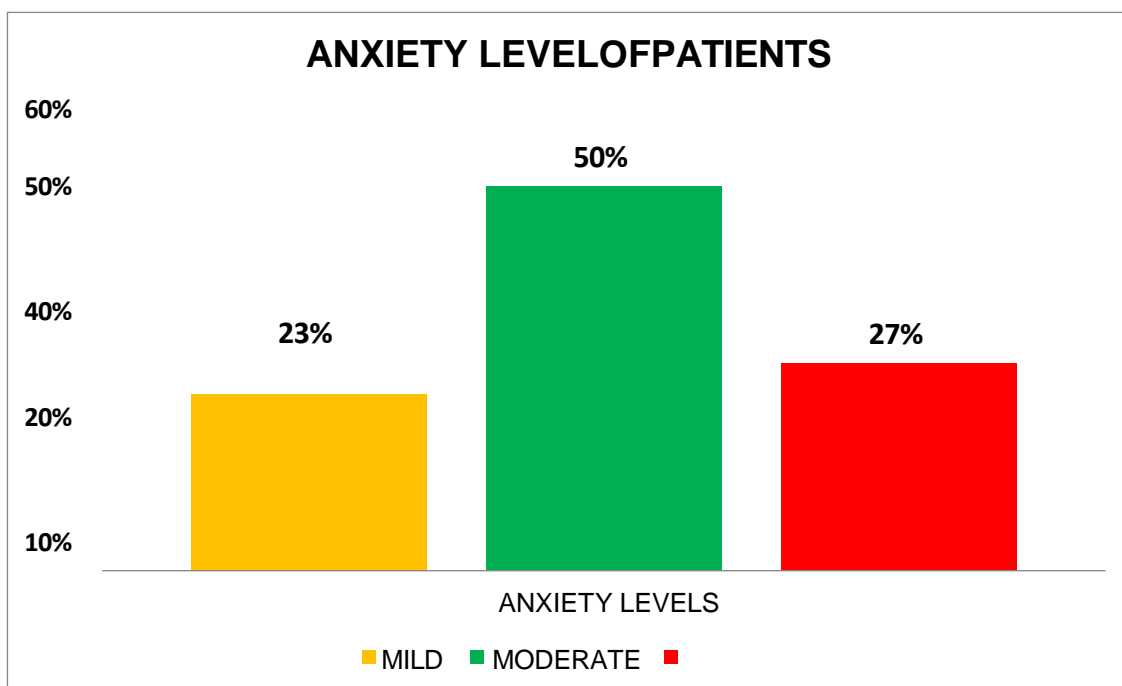


FIGURE 2: DISTRIBUTION OF ANXIETY LEVEL OF THE SUBJECTS

Table 5: ASSOCIATION OF ANXIETY LEVEL SCORES WITH SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

S.N O	DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE	CHI SQUARE	P-VALUE	SIGNIFICANCE
		ANXIETY					
1	AGE IN YEARS				7.82	1.5642	NS
a	<20Years	4	6	2			
b	21 –40Years	5	14	6			
c	41 –60Years	3	8	5			
d	>61 Years	2	2	3			
2	GENDER				3.84	0.1342	NS
a	Male	10	26	14			
b	Female	4	4	2			
3	EDUCATION STATUS				9.49	6.4999	NS
a	Illiterate	2	5	3			
b	Primary education	1	8	4			
c	Secondary education	3	13	3			
d	High school	5	2	5			
e	Graduate	3	2	1			
4	AREA OF RESIDENCE				3.84	1.3179	NS
a	Urban	14	30	16			
5	TIME SINCE AFFECTED				5.99	0.1253	NS
a	Less than a year	7	13	8			
b	1–5Years	5	12	6			
c	>6Years	2	5	2			
6	PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE ON COVID-19				7.82	7.308	NS
a	Mass media	6	13	8			
b	Family members	4	9	6			
c	Health workers	3	6	1			
d	No Previous knowledge	1	2	1			

At 0.05 level of significance

Table 5 depicts that there is no significant association between the anxiety level and with of the selected demographic variables.

The anxiety level of tuberculosis patients on ATT medications and Covid vaccination were moderate compared to high and poor, which could further be improved through continuous awareness and health educational programmes on ATT medications, Covid vaccination and Covid as a whole.

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