

A STUDY OF DENGUE FEVER AWARENESS AMONG PUPIL TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to know the level of awareness of pupil teachers on Dengue Fever. 120 pupil teachers (including both genders) from Sree Shiv Chaitanya College of Education, Bhora Kalan, Gurgaon formed the sample of this study. A questionnaire which consisted of 20 test items as tool was framed. The result indicates that the sample has high level of awareness about Dengue Fever. Significant difference exists in the level of awareness of pupil teachers (B.Ed & D.Ed) on Dengue Fever with respect to different demographic variables.

INTRODUCTION

Dengue Fever has become a global problem since the second world war and is endemic in more than 110 countries. Dengue fever also known as break bone fever, is an infectious tropical disease caused by the Dengue virus. Symptoms include fever, headache, muscle and joint pains and a characteristic skin rash that is similar to measles.

In a small proportion of cases the disease develops into the life threatening Dengue Fever resulting in bleeding, low levels of blood platelets and blood plasma leakage.

Dengue virus is transmitted by several species of mosquito within the genus *Aedes* principally *A.aegypti* & other *Aedes* species that transmit the disease include *A.albopictus*, *A.polyneriensis* and *A.scutellaris*. They typically bite during the day particularly in the early morning and in the evening.

Dengue Fever virus (DENV) is an RNA virus of the family Flaviviridae. There are four strains of the virus viz DENV -1, DENV-2, DENV-3 and DENV-4. When a mosquito carrying dengue virus bites a person the virus enters the skin together with the mosquito's saliva. It binds to and enters white blood cells and reproduces inside the cell while they move throughout the body.

Prevention depends on control of and protection from the bite of the mosquito that transmits it. There are no approved vaccines for the Dengue Fever or virus. Dengue fever

represents great challenges to public health at world level. The WHO reported about 2.5 billion people (40% of the world's population) are at risk of developing the disease.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Now a days, Dengue Fever affected patients are seen everywhere in the hospitals so an awareness about this disease is mandatory to enhance pupil's knowledge regarding prevention of this disease. Pupil teachers as we know are would be teachers and to get them equipped with this knowledge, they will become future messengers to get the society awakened.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study is to find out or check out the level of awareness of pupil teachers (B.Ed & D.Ed) with respect to Dengue Fever.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

1. The level of awareness of Pupil Teachers with respect to Dengue Fever disease is high.
2. There is no difference in the level of awareness of pupil teachers towards Dengue Fever with respect to:
 - i. Gender (Male / Female)
 - ii. Type of family (Joint / Nuclear)
 - iii. Newspaper reading habit (Regular / occasional)

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METHODOLOGY

Normative survey method is used for the present study.

SAMPLE

120 pupil teachers of B.Ed & D.Ed courses (includes both the genders) from Sree Shiv Chaitanya College of Education, Bhora Kalan, Gurgaon were used as the sample for this awareness study.

TOOLS USED

The Questionnaire consists of 20 multiple choice items. It cites the Awareness of Dengue Fever, its symptoms, transmission, treatment and prevention. The Questionnaire was standardized by the experts of education and medicine field. Each Question carries 2 marks for correct response and zero marks for wrong response.

RESULT

The data in table 1 were analyzed statistically and shows the following results

Sample	N	MEAN	Standard Deviation
Total Sample	120	30.2	2.4

The calculated mean value 30.2 is around 75% hence the level of awareness among pupil teachers about Dengue Fever is very high. Thus first hypothesis is accepted.

Table 2 exhibits the level of awareness among pupil teachers on Dengue Fever with respect to different demographic variables

Variable	Sub Sample	N	Mean	Standard Deviation
Gender	Male	60	31.8	4.06
	Female	60	28.6	3.24
Type of families	Nuclear	53	27.8	3.8
	Joint	67	32.4	5.02
News Papers Readers	Regular	69	31.6	4.84
	Occasional	51	28.2	3.92

Thus second hypothesis with respect to different demographic variables is rejected.

DISCUSSION

The result of this study shows that pupil teachers are aware about Dengue Fever. Male pupil teachers have more awareness as they move here and there after the College to work for home as well as family. Female pupil teachers after attending the College are more confined to their homes. News related to health in the various newspapers much aware the pupils teachers about the diseases who reads the newspapers regularly, hence they have more level of awareness than that of the occasional readers. Pupil teachers residing in Joint Family show high level of consciousness towards Dengue Fever diseases as in Joint Families more family members interact together regarding regular issues & problems.

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