

AWARENESS OF HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS ON EYE DONATION

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ABSTRACT

Eyes are very valuable part of a human being, which should not be wasted either by burning or burying the body. Donation of the eyes gives sight to two corneal blind persons, enabling them to come out of their dark and dreary life into a life full of colors, a life where they can see and enjoy this beautiful world! "Eyes are a precious gift to a person. But the same eyes bring misery when misused or when they are lost. A wise man utilizes that gift while alive and on death too". This urge about Eye Donation made the investigator to make a study on it. Normative survey method was used to collect the data from higher secondary schools. Stratified Random sampling technique was used to elicit the data. Findings revealed that gender is influenced by the Awareness on Eye donation.

Key words: Eye Donation, corneal blindness and precious gift.

AWARENESS ON EYE DONATION

Eye donation is an act of donating one's eyes after his/her death. It is an act of charity, purely for the benefit of the society and is totally voluntary. The eye donation of the deceased can be authorized by the next of kith & kin even if the deceased did not pledge to donate his / her eyes before death. Age or systemic illness such as diabetes or hypertension, heart disease, kidney disease is not barriers for eye donations. The corneas of a person are unaffected even if they have undergone any eye surgeries in the past and hence will be useful to be transplanted in others. There are wide spread social awareness programs and activities conducted across the country to impart the significance of eye donation and its usefulness to the visually impaired people. Till date, medical researchers and scientists are working on developing artificial cornea, but till that time, donating the eyes would be the best gift ever for a blind person suffering from corneal blindness.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Vision is the most important sense because it allows interacting freely with the environment and enjoying the beauty of life. Eye is sometimes called the 'mirror of soul', it twinkles with humor, sparkles with joy, softens with worry, harden with anger, and clouds when things go wrong or one

loses hope. The eye often reflects physical health. The use of sight is an internal part of early life experience. Most individuals are not consciously aware of the degree to which they depend on it for daily functioning. The eye is the window to the world and it is a sensitive, highly specialized sense organ subject to various disorders many of which lead to impaired vision. The value of anything is realized only when it is lost, one such thing is vision. Though all the causes of blindness can't be cured, corneal blindness can be reverted by corneal transplantation, for which a suitable donor cornea is required at right time. There is lack of awareness about eye donation among general population, so practice of eye donation is also lacking. As students are the pillars of future generation, it is the need of the hour to make them aware of eye donation.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem taken up for the study is entitled "Awareness on Eye Donation among Higher Secondary Students in Thiruvallur District".

OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the level of Awareness on Eye Donation among Higher Secondary students.

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- To find out whether there is a significant difference in the Awareness on Eye Donation among Higher Secondary Students based on Gender, Locality, Parent's Education and Group of study.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- The Awareness on Eye Donation of Higher Secondary Students is Moderate.
- There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on
 - Gender
 - Locality
 - Parent's Education
 - Group of study

TOOLS USED

The tools used in the present study was constructed by the investigator with the help of guide after referring to various resources including web based resources. The tool was subjected to a pilot study and the reliability (0.80) and validity (0.90) were obtained.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

For the present study, 300 Higher Secondary students were selected at random. The sampling technique used is stratified random technique in which the sample is drawn from different schools. A Sample of 300 Higher Secondary students of Thiruvallur District were identified.

HYPOTHESIS 1

The level of Awareness on Eye Donation among Higher Secondary Students is moderate.

Table 1

Frequency and Percentage in each category for the variable of Awareness on Eye Donation.

Category	Range	Frequency	Percentage
Low	0-24	96	32%
Moderate	25- 26	87	29%
High	27-34	117	39%

Interpretation

From above the Table 1, it is observed that more number of students lie in the high range of Awareness on Eye Donation than low and

moderate level. Hence the hypothesis is not accepted.

HYPOTHESIS 2

There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on Gender.

Table 2

Mean, SD and t-value for Awareness on Eye Donation based on Gender

Variable	Sub Sample	N	M	SD	t-value	LS
Awareness on Eye Donation	Male	150	24.93	3.18	4.24	S at 0.01
	Female	150	26.36	2.63		

Interpretation

From the above table, it is observed that t-value 4.24 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, there is significant difference between the mean score of male (24.93) and female (26.36) Higher Secondary Students in their Awareness on Eye Donation.

HYPOTHESIS 3

There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on Locality.

Table 3

Mean, SD and t value for Awareness on Eye Donation based on Locality

Variable	Sub Sample	N	M	SD	t-value	LS
Awareness on Eye Donation	Rural	52	25.73	2.95	0.22	NS
	Urban	248	25.62	3.00		

Interpretation

From the above table, it is observed that t-value 0.22 is lesser than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is no significant difference between the mean score of Rural (25.73) and Urban (25.62) Higher Secondary Students in their Awareness on Eye Donation.

HYPOTHESIS 4

There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on

Eye Donation based on Parent's Education.

Table 4

Mean, SD and t-value for Awareness on Eye Donation based on Parent's Education

Source of Variation	Sum of Square	df	Mean Square	F-value	LS
Between the sample	77.82317	2	38.91159	4.409	S
Within the sample	2620.72	297	8.823985		

Interpretation

From the above table, it is observed that F-value 4.409 is greater than the table value 2.99 at 0.05 level. Therefore, there is significant difference among the students whose Parents Education are Illiterate, School Educated, and College Educated on their Awareness on Eye Donation. So the null hypothesis is rejected. Hence it is subjected to t-test.

Table 4a

Mean, SD and t-value for Awareness on Eye Donation based on Parent's Education

Variable	Sub Sample	N	M	SD	t-value	LS
Awareness on Eye Donation	Illiterate	31	26.19	26.67	1.57	NS
	School Educated	232	25.38	3.04		
	School Educated	232	25.38	3.04	3.12	S
	College Educated	37	26.84	2.55		
	Illiterate	31	26.19	2.76	0.986	NS
	Collage Educated	37	26.84	2.58		

Interpretation

From the above table it is observed that t-value 1.57 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is no significant difference between the mean score of students whose Parent's are Illiterate (26.19) and School Educated (25.38) in their Awareness on Eye Donation.

From the above table it is observed that t-value 3.12 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, there is significant difference between

the mean score of students whose Parent's are School Educated (26.19) and College Educated (25.38) in their Awareness on Eye Donation.

It is observed that t-value 0.986 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is no significant difference between the mean score of students whose Parent's are College Educated (26.84) and Illiterate (26.19) in their Awareness on Eye Donation.

HYPOTHESIS 5

There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on the Group of study.

Table 5

Mean, SD and t-value for Awareness on Eye Donation based on the Group of study.

Variable	Sub Sample	N	M	SD	t-value	LS
Awareness on Eye Donation	Arts	147	25.38	3.309	1.49	NS
	Science	153	25.90	2.66		

Interpretation

From the above table, it is observed that t-value 1.49 is less than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, there is no significant difference between the mean score of Arts (25.38) and Science (25.90) Group Students in their Awareness on Eye Donation.

MAJOR FINDINGS

1. The Awareness on Eye Donation of Higher secondary is High.
2. There is significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on Gender.
3. There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on Locality.
4. There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on Parent's Education. Significant difference is found between the students of school Educated and College Educated Parent's.
5. There is no significant difference in the Awareness of Higher Secondary Students on Eye Donation based on Group of study.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

There is a great need to increase awareness among the school students regarding eye donation, as they are the backbone of our health care system. Education of the Higher Secondary Students regarding the preventive and curative aspects of corneal blindness can act as a major source for spreading awareness about eye donation among their family and friends thus acting as an important motivator.

- Teachers play a vital role in creating awareness on Eye donation.
- Awareness Programs must be provided to parents also.
- Organ Donation should be given due importance as other matters.

CONCLUSION

Eye donation is the mother of all donations. Eye donation directly gives vision to another human

being. It is not only gives vision to one individual but also to the entire family of that individual. One can see the world even after the death by the way of donating eyes.

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