



# International Journal of Nursing and Healthcare Research

Journal home page: [www.ijnhr.com](http://www.ijnhr.com)

<https://doi.org/10.36673/IJNHR.2023.v07.i02.A09>



## ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF FEVER AMONG MOTHERS OF UNDER FIVE CHILDREN

Aasha Maithani\*<sup>1</sup>, Harshit Yadav<sup>1</sup>, Sarika Madheshiya<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1\*</sup>Faculty of Pushpanjali College of Nursing, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India.

### ABSTRACT

Since children represent the world's future resources, the health of every kid has been deemed essential to every society<sup>1</sup>. Children are our nation's future citizens. The majority of juvenile illnesses frequently manifest as fever, which is one of the main causes for which parents take their kids to the doctor especially those under five<sup>2</sup>. When it comes to caring for children at home, mothers lead the way. Therefore, research to evaluate mothers' understanding of fever care is necessary. **Statement of Problem:** A descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding management of fever among mothers of under five children in selected hospital, Agra, Uttar Pradesh. **Objectives:** To assess the knowledge of mothers of under-five regarding fever management. To find out association between level of knowledge and selected demographic variables. To prepare an information leaflet on fever management. **Methodology:** For this study, a non-experimental quantitative research approach was used. Descriptive design is the chosen research methodology for this investigation. Mothers whose children were less than five made up the population of this study. The sample included 50 mothers whose children were younger than five and who were admitted to the pediatric wards and outpatient department of Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center. For the investigation, convenient sampling was used. **Results:** Just 2% of mothers in 50 samples were found to have very excellent understanding. Moms with good knowledge make up 27%. Mothers with ordinary knowledge make up 21%. The results show that there are relationships between moms' knowledge, thermometer use, and income. There is no correlation with specific demographic factors like age, birth order, or family type. It is imperative for nurse educators to stay up to speed on the most recent research results and offer mothers health education programmes.

### KEYWORDS

Fever, Mothers, Knowledge, Childhood fever, Management, Mothers and Children under five.

### Author for Correspondence:

Aasha Maithani,  
Faculty of Pushpanjali College of Nursing,  
Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India.

**Email:** aashajoshi4@gmail.com

### INTRODUCTION

Children are the future resources of humanity; hence it has long been believed that their health is of utmost importance to all communities<sup>3</sup>. Kids are more vulnerable to illnesses because of their growing immune systems and lack of personal cleanliness<sup>4</sup>.

Fever is always the predominant sign of an infection. Temperature rise is the most common and initial symptom of any disease. An elevated body temperature of 98.60 degrees Celsius is referred to as a fever. Among the most prevalent signs of a disease in youngsters is fever<sup>5</sup>. When the host's defensive mechanism is compromised by a variety of diseases or non-infectious processes, fever results.

### **Need and Significance**

Parents, families, communities, countries, and the entire world value children beyond anything else. Thus, a mother's literacy on child care has a significant impact on the kid's health state by lowering the rate of morbidity and mortality<sup>6</sup>.

### **Statement of Problem**

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge regarding management of fever among mothers of under five children in Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center, Agra.

### **Objectives**

To assess the knowledge of mothers of under-five regarding fever management.

To find out association between level of knowledge and selected demographic variables.

To prepare an information leaflet on fever management.

### **Assumptions**

Mothers have a little knowledge regarding management of fever.

### **Hypothesis**

There is a significant association between knowledge regarding fever management among under five mothers with the selected demographic variables.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

### **Research Approach**

The research approach adopted for this study is non-experimental quantitative approach.

### **Research Design**

The general strategy for structuring a scientific investigation is represented by the research design. Descriptive design is the chosen research methodology for this investigation<sup>7</sup>.

### **Population**

Population is a set of people or entities to which the results of a research are to be generalized. Population

in this study consisted of mothers having children below five years of age<sup>8</sup>.

### **Sample and Sample Size**

It involves choosing a portion of the designated population to represent the full group<sup>9</sup>. The sample in this study consisted of 50 mothers of under five children who were admitted in pediatric wards and OPD of Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center.

### **Sampling Technique**

Convenient sampling was adopted for the study. Samples are selected from the pediatric wards and OPD.

### **Sampling Criteria**

#### **Inclusion Criteria**

Mothers having children five years of age.

Mothers who are attending pediatric OPD and wards.

#### **Exclusion Criteria**

Mothers who are not willing to participate in the study

Mothers who can't read or write English or Hindi

### **Data Collection Tool**

A structured questionnaire on fever and its management was used for the collection of data. Questionnaire was divided into 2

Demographic variables

A structured knowledge questionnaire on fever and its management.

The questionnaire consists of 25 questions. The scoring was done in such a way that correct score carries one mark and for wrong response 0.

### **Data Collection Procedure**

After getting permission from the management of Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center, data was collected using questionnaires from mothers of under five children in pediatric wards and OPD of Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center. Data collection for period of 3 days. After self-introduction, nature and objectives of the study was explained to the samples. Concern was taken. Questionnaires was given and samples were asked to fill the questionnaire according to the instructions given. At the end of successful data collection, to enhance their knowledge an information leaflet on fever management was distributed to the samples. Later we conveyed gratitude to all participants who cooperated for the study.

### Pilot Study

Pilot study is primary research conducted to test the elements of design before commencement of an actual full-scale project.<sup>10</sup>

In order to test the feasibility and practicability of tool, pilot study was conducted in mothers of under five children who were admitted in pediatric wards and OPD of Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center. The average time taken for the study was 25 minutes. The reliability of tool is checked and 'r' value is 0.93.

### Data Analysis

Data collected were analyzed and interpreted using descriptive statistics. Tables, diagrams are used to represent the data.

The study findings are discussed in three sections.

### NURSING IMPLICATIONS

The present indicates that the mothers have average knowledge about management of fever. The study serves as a guiding point towards identifying the level of knowledge and the demographic variables. The implications of this study were discussed under the following headings.

### NURSING RESEARCH

Fever occurs most commonly in under five children. They are more prone to get infections. So, there is a wide opportunity to conduct research on the management of fever. The nurse researcher can conduct the study in a large population setting. The findings from the study can be utilized while providing care in the pediatric settings.

### NURSING EDUCATION

An effective education to mothers will enlighten their knowledge regarding the fever management. Special interest should also to be taken to educate young mothers about the importance of fever management and prevention of febrile seizures. Nurse educators should continuously update their knowledge with latest research findings and provide health education programmes to mothers.

### NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Adequate provision can be made by the nursing administrators to provide education to young mothers.

Administrative support should be provided to staff nurses to implement health education programmes.

Efficiency of the health education programmes has to be ascertained and suitable modifications can be brought about in content and plan of the programmes.

#### Section No.1: Analysis of Demographic Variables

Table No.1: Distribution of subjects according to age N=50

S.No	Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	20-25	17	34%
2	26-30	20	40%
3	>30	13	26%

Table No.2: Distribution of subjects According to Religion

S.No	Religion	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	Hindu	20	40%
2	Muslim	13	26%
3	Christian	17	34%

**Table No.3: Distribution of subjects according to education N=50**

S.No	Education	Frequency	Percentage
1	Primary	2	4%
2	Secondary	8	16%
3	Degree	34	68%
4	Post graduate	6	12%

**Table No.4: Distribution of subjects according to type of family N=50**

S.No	Type of Family	Frequency	Percentage
1	Nuclear family	21	42%
2	Joint family	29	58%

**Table No.5: Association between age and knowledge of mothers**

S.No	Age in years	Average	Good	Very Good	X <sup>2</sup>	Table value
1	20-25	6	9	1	2.275	9.49
2	26-30	8	12	0		
3	>30	6	7	1		

Table No.5 shows that calculated value is <table value, so there was no association between age and knowledge of mothers.

**Table No.6: Association between income and knowledge of mothers**

S.No	Income	Average	Good	Very Good	X <sup>2</sup>	Table Value
1	<10000	11	10	0	16.66	12.52
2	10000-15000	8	9	0		
3	15000-20000	0	6	0		
4	>20000	1	3	2		

**Table No.7: Association between birth order and knowledge of mothers**

S.No	Birth Order	Average	Good	Very Good	X <sup>2</sup>	Table Value
1	1	7	11	1	6.725	12.59
2	2	11	14	0		
3	3	3	1	1		
4	4	0	1	0		

Table No.7 shows that calculated value is <table value, so there was no association between birth order and knowledge of mothers.

**Table No.8: Association between type of family and knowledge of mothers**

S.No	Type of Family	Average	Good	Very Good	X <sup>2</sup>	Table Value
1	Nuclear family	8	13	0	1.97	5.99
2	Joint family	13	14	2		

Table No.8 shows that calculated value is <table value, so there was no association between type of family and knowledge of mothers.

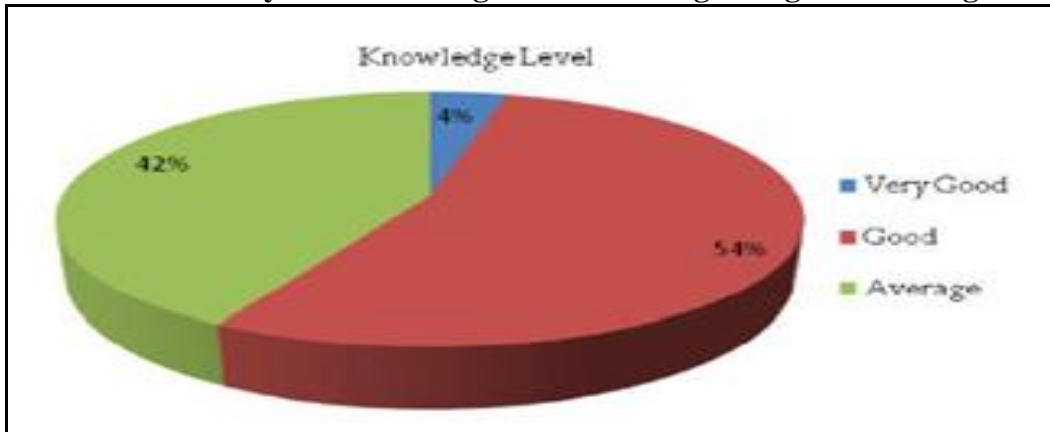
**Section No.3: Association between selected demographic variables and knowledge of mothers**

**Table No.9: Association between usage of thermometer and knowledge of mothers**

S.No	Usage of Thermometer	Average	Good	Very Good	X <sup>2</sup>	Table Value
1	Present	12	12	1	9.64	9.49
2	Absent	9	15	1		

Table No.9 shows that calculated value is > table value, so there is association between usage of thermometer and knowledge of mothers.

## Section No.2: Analysis of knowledge of mothers regarding fever management



**Figure No.1: Distribution of subjects according to knowledge of mothers**  
**Impression**

Majority of subjects 54% having good level of knowledge, 42% have average knowledge and only 4% have very good knowledge.

### CONCLUSION

The findings of the study show that majority of the subjects 54% having good level of knowledge. Regarding the association between selected demographic variables and knowledge of mothers from the findings, it was found that there are association with income and usage of thermometer and knowledge of mothers. No association with selected demographic variables such as age, birth order, type of family. A patient information booklet on management of fever was made available to the subjects in the pediatric OPDs.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

A similar study can be conducted using large sample.

The duration of study could be increased.

Appropriate instructions could be planned to solve the limitations.

Emphasize should be given on multi-disciplinary supervision.

A comparative study with control group can be done in order to have a better precision and accuracy in the findings.

### LIMITATIONS

The study was only to the mothers who came to the outpatient and inpatient department of Pushpanjali Hospital and Research Center.

### NURSING PRACTICE

In general, clinical settings and in child health settings nurse can take the initiative to assess and provide health education about the management of fever.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of Interest.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors wish to express their sincere gratitude to Faculty of Pushpanjali College of Nursing, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India for providing necessary facilities to carry out this research work.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Kliegman R M, Geme J W S, Blum N J, Shah S S, Tasker R C, Wilson K M, et al. Nelson textbook of pediatrics, fever, Elsevier Inc, Philadelphia, 2020, 5642-5650.
2. Walsh A, Edwardsh, Fraserj. Influences on parent's fever management: Beliefs experiences and information sources, *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 16(12), 2007, 2331-2340.
3. Fraserj, Walsh A, Edwardsh. Parents childhood fever management: Community and instrument development, *Jadvnurs*, 63(4), 2008, 376-888.

4. Hudaka, Naidaa, Amania. To survey mothers about their knowledge concerning fever in children, how they manage it at home, Primary health care shamiyya clinic, capital health region, Kuwait, *Medical Journal*, 2017, 349.
5. Chiappini E, D'Elisos S, Mazzantini R, Becherucci P, Pierattelli M, Galli L, et al. Adherence among Italian paediatricians to the Italian guidelines for the management of fever in children: A cross sectional survey, *BMC Pediatr*, 13(1), 2013, 210.
6. Suad A, Assad B, Adel M Z. Auditing the attitude and knowledge of parents of children with febrile convulsion, *Afr J Neurol Sci*, 55(5), 2009, 10931.
7. Kozier and Erb's fundamentals of nursing, *Dorling Kindersley Pvt. Ltd*, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition.
8. Sharma S K. Nursing research and statistics, *Jaypee Publications, New Delhi*.
9. Parthasarathy A. IAP Textbook of pediatric, *Jaypee Publications, New Delhi*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2008, 49.
10. Suraj Gupta. The textbook of pediatrics, *Jaypee Publications, New Delhi*, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007, 430-431.

**Please cite this article in press as:** Aasha Maithani et al. Assess the knowledge regarding management of fever among mothers of under five children, *International Journal of Nursing and Healthcare Research*, 7(2), 2023, 45-50.