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Every Second Counts!... Know First Aid

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Abstract

A quasi Study to assess the Effectiveness of a Planned Teaching Program on First Aid Measures in terms of Knowledge and Attitude of School Teachers in Selected Municipal Primary Schools of Ahmedabad City

Keywords
First Aid

INTRODUCTION

The attainment of health is a fundamental right of every human being, enshrined in the constitution.

More than 53 million children in the United States spend almost one-fourth of their waking hours in school or on school property. An estimated 10 to 25 percent of the accidental injuries sustained by children ages 14 and under each year occur in and around schools.

More than 2000 children die every day as a result of an unintentional, or accidental injury, and every year tens of millions more worldwide are taken to hospitals with injuries that often leave them with lifelong disabilities, according to a new report by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF. **(Health & Medicine, WHO 2008)**

Need of the study

A school environment fosters respect and caring, that strictly punishes abuse and also offers good quality teacher's education, is another key to successful prevention programme. School going age is dynamic period of growth and development; children are the most valuable assets of the country. School-age children by and large constitute roughly a quarter of the total population. Health status of the children of a nation is highly reliable index of the health of her population. **(Census, 1991)**

First aid is an essential part of school emergency response system and overall health and safety program. Think about what could happen if someone at work suddenly stopped breathing and no one knew how to help that person. Or, what if the necessary first aid supplies and equipment weren't available to help an employee who was bleeding heavily or who had been splashed with a corrosive chemical. Every company will, at some time or another, have to deal with first aid emergencies. Even in work places that seem safe, such as schools and offices, many types of emergencies can happen. It is critical to be prepared at all times to quickly and effectively deal with these situations.

First Aid has been practiced ever since the beginning of humanity. Learning First Aid is the civic responsibility of every citizen.

Sample size

Sample comprised of 60 primary school teachers of Ahmedabad city.

Description of tool

Structured knowledge questionnaire and Likert's attitude scale

Reliability

The reliability co-efficient was found to be 0.7 with the help of split half method using 'Spearman Brown Formula' for knowledge questionnaire and the reliability of likert's attitude scale determined by Crohn back's alpha method which was 0.8 and found significant.

Major findings

Findings related to sample characteristics

Age wise distribution of sample: Majority of the samples 11(27.5%) were from age group of 21-30 years and 41-50 years, 10(25%) were in the age of 51-60 years and 8(20%) were in the age group of 31-40 years.

Gender: The distribution of Samples by Gender wise distribution of samples, 37(92.5%) were female and 3(7.5%) were male.

Education Status: The distribution of samples by Education Qualification showed that 30(75%) samples were P.T.C, 9 (22.5%) samples had bachelor education, and 1 (2.5%) had other qualification.

Years of Experience: The distribution of samples by years of experience 16 (40%) samples had 0-10 years, 7 (17.5%) samples had 10-20 years, 12 (30%) had 20-30 years, 5(12.5%) had 26-30 more than 30 years and above experience.

Maintenance of emergency records: As regards of maintaining emergency record in schools 22 (55%) were not maintaining emergency records and 18(45%) were maintaining emergency school records.

Findings related to significance difference of knowledge score on First Aid Measures before and after planned teaching program.

Comparison between pre test & post test knowledge score [N=40]

Knowledge test	Mean	Mean Difference	SD	SEM	't' test
Pre test	12.89	10.78	2.32	0.38	
Post test	23.67		1.63		27.88

(*P < 0.05 as well as P < 0.01, df = 39)

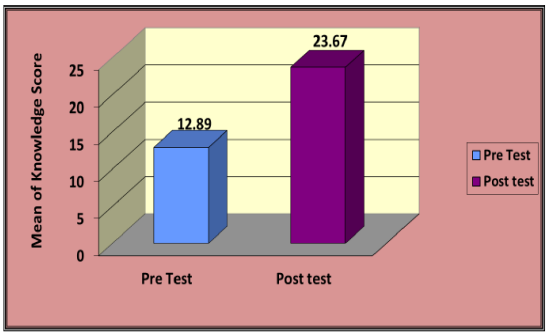

Figure 5: Bar graph showing the comparison of Mean Score of Pre test and Post test Knowledge scores of samples regarding First Aid Measures

Findings related to significance difference of attitude score on First Aid Measures before and after planned teaching program.

Comparison between pre test & post test knowledge score [N=40]

Knowledge test	Mean	Mean Difference	SD	SEM	't' test
Pre test	46.22	13.19	3.55	0.57	24.36*
Post test	60.13		3.10		

(*P < 0.05 as well as P < 0.01, df = 39)

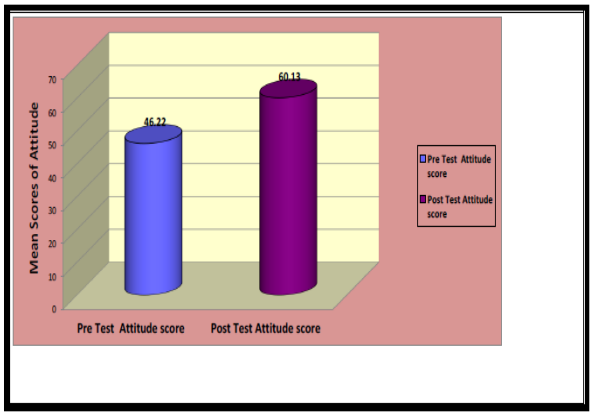

Figure 6: Bar graph showing comparison of Mean Pre test and Mean Post test Attitude scores of samples regarding First Aid Measures

This revealed that mean post test attitude score was higher than the mean pre test attitude score and the calculated 't' (24.36) was greater than tabulated 't' (1.68) which was statistically proved and not by chance. Hence the investigator concluded that the administration of Planned Teaching Programme on First Aid Measures was effective and so the research hypothesis was H2 was accepted and null hypothesis was H02 was rejected.

Findings related to distribution of favorable and unfavorable Attitude based on Pre test and Post test Attitude score

Attitude	Classification	Pre test		Post test	
		F	%	F	%
Favorable	8 to 70	15	37.50	40	100
Unfavorable	Below 47	25	62.50	00	00
Total		-	100	-	100

It suggested that Planned Teaching Programme was effective to change the attitude of school teachers on First Aid Measures in selected Municipal Primary schools of Ahmedabad city.

RECOMMDNDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

The following recommendations are made on the basis of the findings of present study.

1. A similar study can be replicated using a large sample so that findings can be generalized for a larger population.
2. A similar study can be replicated among college students, students from urban area.
3. A comparative study can be conducted in order to compare the knowledge and attitude of First Aid Measures of,
   - Urban and rural school teachers.
   - Different states of the India.
   - In government and private school teachers.
4. A study can be conducted to identify the factors responsible for poor attitude for First Aid Measures.
5. A true experimental study may be carried out to standardize the planned teaching programme.
6. As study can be conducted by using SIM including all other emergencies First Aid measures.

7. A study can be conducted by using other teaching strategies.

8. A similar study can be undertaken with a control group design.

9. A study can be carried out to determine the cost-effectiveness of the first aid measures, and first aid training programme in school setting in terms of its production and evaluation applicability.

10. A survey of various school wellness progress with elements of medical emergencies in school setting, its management and available resources thereof can be carried out to study the content and to suggest improvement and to update the emergency services in school setting if needed.

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