

A Study on Perception and Utilization of Anganwadiservices among Mothers Having Children between 0-6 Years in a Selected Community at Mangaluru

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Abstract

Objectives: The objectives of the study is to determine the perception of Anganwadi services among mothers, to find the utilization of Anganwadi services among mothers, to find the correlation between scores on perception and utilization of Anganwadi services among mothers and to find the association between scores on perception of mothers regarding Anganwadi services and selected demographic variables.

Method: A descriptive survey approach with non experimental descriptive design was adopted perception and utilization of anganwadi services among mothers having children between 0-6 years in a selected community at Mangalore. The conceptual frame work of the study was developed on the basis of general system model by Ludwig Von Bertalanffy. Content validity of tools was established in consultation with seven experts. Out of the seven experts, Four from the department of Community Health Nursing, one from the Child Health Nursing, One from the department of Community Medicine, one from the department of the Obstetrics and gynecological nursing. The reliability co- efficient of tool was calculated using Spearman's Rank Correlation of Co efficient formula. Non probability purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample for the study the final sample size was 100. Pilot study was conducted to find out the feasibility of the study. Data collected from the sample were analyzes by descriptive and inferential statistics.

Result: The result study shows that 50% of the subject are having moderate perception followed by average perception 23.4% and bad perception for 7.3%. The majority 61.3% of subjects had high utilization of Anganwadi services followed by 12.1% of subjects had moderate utilization and there is no correlation between perception and utilisation and there is no association between scores on perception and utilization of Anganwadi services and demographic variables.

Conclusion: The overall findings of the study revealed that majority of the mothers utilizing anganwadi services.

Keywords: *perception, utilisation, Anganwadi services, mothers, children, supplimentary nutrition, benefits,*

Introduction

In India, we have Anganwadi centers, giving informal education for children between 3-6 years of age. These centers come under the charge of ICDS. If we go through the history of these centers one can know that it was started in the year 1975 with the aim of combat the menace of child hunger and malnutrition. Their work is not just limited to imparting informal

education; they also render their services in the form of sharing knowledge and supplementing nutrition to every antenatal, postnatal mother having BPL cards. Added to this, they also render nutrition demonstration, health checkups, growth monitoring, Vitamin A oral administration, such work is done under the supervision of Anganwadi teachers¹.

The 2011 census of Dakshina Kannada indicates 9.97% of the total district population comprise of children between the age group of 0-6 years of age. The total children of this age group are 2, 08,297. This constitutes 53.33% in rural areas and 46.67% in urban.

This shows the rural- urban distribution remains more or less same. The Kotekar PHC is 6Kms away from the Yenepoya institute, where the investigators had an opportunity to render nursing services as a part of community health nursing practical activity. This PHC judiciary area there are 35 number of Anganwadi centers. The investigators have selected Talapady area which is having 2 numbers of Anganwadis and decided to interview the mothers having children between 0-6 years to know the perception and utilization of services by them².

A study conducted in Wardha urban area among 140 women had indicated that 89.29% of the BPL families were utilizing Anganwadis services for their children between 0-6 years of age. The study also says that working women are under utilizing the services.³ The study conducted in Lucknow had revealed that 250 parents of a community were not enrolled their children between 3-6 years of age in Anganwadis and they were refrain from informal education⁴. The study conducted in West Bengal in Howrah among 1235 mothers had revealed low perception about Anganwadi, 73% said that most of the time these Anganwadis remained closed and 27.3% said the food supplied by them is not satisfactory⁵.

Materials and Method

- **Source of data/sampling method:** The unit of population selected for the research study will be mothers of a selected community having children between 0-6 years of age.
- **Sample size:** The sample for the present study consists of 100 mothers having children between 0-6 years of age.
- **Sampling Technique:** Purposive sampling technique will be used to collect the data from the subjects.
- **Subject Selection Criteria:**

Inclusion Criteria:

- Mothers having children between 0-6 years
- Mothers who are able to conversant in Kannada or in English.

- Mothers belongs to below poverty line

Exclusion Criteria:

- APL families
- Mothers having children above 6 years of age
- Hearing and mentally impaired mothers

Delimitation

- Study is conducted only in a selected community area.
- Utilization of services will be elicited only by the help of a checklist, that itself limits the subject's response towards the phenomenon under study.
- Perception is determined with the help of a rating scale therefore it restricts the response given by the subjects also forced them to restrict their response towards given parameters only.
- **Research variables:** Perception and utilization
- **Demographic variables:** Age, Gender, Education, Occupation of mother, years of residing in a area, number of children, Age of younger child, proximity to the Anganwadi etc.

Findings:

Distribution of the Subject According to Their Perception: It is found that many of the subject 50% have moderate perception followed by average perception 23.4% and bad perception for 7.3%. The mean percentage of overall perception was 1.80 and standard deviation

Subject Distribution of According to The Utilization: The findings of the study revealed that majority (61.3%) of subjects had high utilization of anganwadi services followed by 12.1% of subjects had moderate utilization and the mean percentage of utilization was 1.33 and the standard deviation was 0.637. 100 women were interviewed by pre designed checklist. The result revealed that 61.3% of mothers were having high utilization of anganwadi services.

Correlation between Perception and Utilization: It's found that there is no correlation between the perception and utilization.

Association between Scores on Perception of Mothers Regarding the Anganwadi Services and Selected Demographic Variables: Findings of the study shows that, there is no significant association between

the perception and demographic variables that is, age of the mother [p=0.920], education of the mother [p=0.271], number of children [p=0.858], number of children below 6 years [p=0.312], distance from the anganwadi [p=0.847], most used anganwadi services [p=0.523] and there is 100% utilization of anganwadi services. The perception score is not shown any association with any of the demographic variables.

Association between Scores on Utilization of Anganwadi Services by the Mothers and Selected Demographic Variables: The findings of the study shows that there is no significant association between utilization of anganwadi services and demographic variables. Age [p=0.164], education of the mother [p=0.73], number of children [p=0.143], number of children below 6 years [p=0.617], distance from anganwadi [p=0.678], services liking [p=0.26] and 100% mothers are utilizing anganwadi services. The utilization score is shown no association between the demographic variables like age, education of the mother, number of children, number of children below 6 years and distance from the anganwadi and most liking anganwadi services.

Discussion

Demographic Data: Majority of the subjects (49%) belongs to the group of 26-30 years, 25% belongs to age group of 21-25 years, 20% belongs to 35 years and above and 6% belongs to the group of 18-20 years. The maximum number of the mothers having primary education (52%). The majority of subjects (76%) are having number of children between 2-4, 22% are having 1 child and 2% belongs to 5 and above. Most of the subjects (67%) are having number of children above 3 and 33% are belongs to the category of 1-3. Most of the subjects (43%) are utilizing formal education, 38% are utilizing health check-ups and weight monitoring and 19% utilizing food. Most of them are within 1KM and 35% are More than 1 km.

Distribution of the Subject According to Their Perception: In the present study, it is found that many of the subject 50% have moderate perception followed by average perception 23.4% and bad perception for 7.3%. The mean percentage of overall perception was 1.80 and standard deviation was 0.586.

The following study support to the findings of current study, “a study of perception and utilization of Anganwadi services among mothers having children between 0-6 years in a selected community at

Mangalore”. Objects were interviewed by pre designed questionnaire. Study revealed that, out of 100 mothers 50% had moderate perception about the anganwadi services.

Subject Distribution of According to the Utilization: The findings of the study revealed that majority (61.3%) of subjects had high utilization of anganwadi services followed by 12.1% of subjects had moderate utilization and the mean percentage of utilization was 1.33 and the standard deviation was 0.637. 100 women were interviewed by pre designed checklist. The result revealed that 61.3% of mothers were having high utilization of anganwadi services.

Correlation between Perception and Utilization: Findings of the study revealed that the correlation between perception and utilization was 0.070, which suggested that there is a very weak correlation between perception and utilization of anganwadi services. The p value was 0.486 p>0.05 (). So there is no correlation between these two variables. Hence the null hypothesis H₀₁ which states there is no significant correlation between utilization and perception of anganwadi services was rejected. This shows that effort can be undertaken by the community health nurse, ASHA workers and anganwadi workers to educate the community regarding the anganwadi services and the importance of those services.

Association between Scores on Perception of Mothers Regarding the Anganwadi Services and Selected Demographic Variables: A descriptive study was done “to assess the perception and utilization of anganwadi services among mothers having children between 0-6 years in selected community at Mangalore”

Findings of the study shows that, there is no significant association between the perception and demographic variables that is, age of the mother [p=0.920], education of the mother [p=0.271], number of children [p=0.858], number of children below 6 years [p=0.312], distance from the anganwadi [p=0.847], most used anganwadi services [p=0.523] and there is 100% utilization of anganwadi services. The perception score is not shown any association with any of the demographic variables. Hence the research hypothesis is rejected and the null hypothesis accepted.

Association between Scores on Utilization of Anganwadi Services by the Mothers and Selected Demographic Variables: The findings of the study

shows that there is no significant association between utilization of anganwadi services and demographic variables. Age [p=0.164], education of the mother [p=0.73], number of children [p=0.143], number of children below 6 years [p=0.617], distance from anganwadi [p=0.678], services liking [p=0.26] and 100% mothers are utilizing anganwadi services. The utilization score is shown no association between the demographic variables like age, education of the mother, number of children, number of children below 6 years and distance from the anganwadi and most liking anganwadi services. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted and the research hypothesis is rejected.

Conclusion

Conclusion is the chronological end of any discussion or study. It is a stopping point of a detailed argument. Basically its occurrence ends rest of the debate or any study. A conclusion is not merely a summary of the main topics covered or a re-statement of the research problem but a synthesis of key point and, if applicable, where they recommend new areas future research.

The following conclusions were drawn the basis of the findings of study.

1. In the present study 50% mothers are having moderate perception regarding anganwadi services.
2. 61.3% of mothers are highly utilizing the anganwadi services.
3. There is no association or correlation between the perception of mothers regarding anganwadi services and utilization.
4. The finding shows that there is no significant association between perception of anganwadi services with selected demographic variables.

5. There is no significant association between utilization of anganwadi services with selected demographic variables.

Ethical Clearance: Yenepoya Ethics Committee-1 approved our study protocol number 2018/081 titled "a study on perception and utilization of anganwadi services among mothers having children between 0-6 years in a selected community at Mangalore" on 23/06/2018 under the chairmanship of Dr. Umakulkarni

Source of Funding: Self

Conflict of Interest: Nil

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