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## Knowledge on problem of open field defecation among adults in Dakkilivari Palem, Nellore

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**Abstract**

**Background:** Health should mean a lot more than escape from death or for that matter, escape from disease. Health is an important assess for the individual as well as community. Good health is a reflection of hygienic practices of an individual. Unhygienic practices may affect the person's general appearance, body image and may also leads to several infections. It increases the susceptibility to various infections affecting mostly the integumentary and gastro intestinal system. So, a healthy life style with clean and hygiene condition is required for the promotion of health.

**Objectives:** 1.To assess the knowledge on problem of open field defecation among adults in Dakkilivari Palem, Nellore. 2. To find out the association between the level of knowledge on problem of open field defecation among adults with their selected socio demographic variables.

**Materials and Methods:** The researcher was used quantitative research approach with Descriptive research design. The 100 samples were selected by using Non-probability convenience sampling technique to assess the knowledge regarding problems of open filed defecation among adults in Dakkilivari Palem at Nellore. Data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

**Result:** The results reveals that with regard to level of knowledge on problems of open field defecation among adults, 48(48%) had poor Knowledge, 35(35%) had adequate knowledge and 17 (17%) had good Knowledge.

**Keywords:** knowledge, open field defecation, adults, Nellore

**Introduction**

Elimination of waste is one of the basic needs of human beings. The term defecation is defined as a bowel movement in which feaces are evacuated through the rectum and anus. Open air defecation is passage of stools in an open environment. It is commonly practiced custom in rural areas where sanitation facilities are ignored. Human excreta in open environment health hazards like hook worm infestation, diarrhea, cholera, dysentery and other health problems. As majority (80%) of Indian population leave in village, the health of rural population reflects the general health of the country. Good sanitation has an important effect on the general health of the rural population as majority of diseases have a direct link with poor sanitation facilities.

Open defecation is one of such unhealthy practices which are widely prevalent in rural India. Human excreta are source of infection which contains pathogenic bacteria, viruses, protozoa, parasites and their eggs. An excreta of a sick person is the main source of infection which contain disease agent about an estimate of 2.6 billion people (or)about one third of the global population do not access to proper toilet according to WHO and about 700million people in India doesn't have access to proper toilet.

Extreme poverty and lack of sanitation are statistically linked, eliminating open defecation is said to be an important part of development efforts, high levels of open defecation in a country are usually co related with a high child mortality, as well as high levels of under nutrition, high level of poverty and large disparities between rich and poor.

Shuba jyoti Ray *et al.*, (2016) was conducted a cross sectional study in khatmandu valley, Nepal to find the intestinal parasites among the stools collected from open field defecating street children with 93 stool samples. Stool micro scope analysis result shows that majority of stool specimen were brown or pale yellow (63.4%) with mucous (62.4%) and without adult forms of helminthes (98.8%). The entire stool specimen was positive for intestinal parasites (100%).

**Objectives**

1. To assess the knowledge on problem of open field defecation among adults in Dakkilivari palem, Nellore.
2. To find out the association between the level of knowledge on problem of open field defecation among adults with their selected socio demographic variables.

**Material and Methods**

**Research Approach:** Quantitative research was adopted for the study.

**Research Design:** The descriptive research design was used for present study.

**Setting of the Study:** The study was conducted in Dakkilivari palem at Nellore.

**Target Population:** The population in the present study includes 100 Adult in Dakkilivari palem, Nellore.

**Accessible Population:** The accessible population for the present study includes who are residing in Dakkilivari Palem, Nellore.

**Sample:** The population for the present study includes the adults who fulfill the inclusion criteria.

**Sample Size:** The sample size was 100 adults in Dakkilivari Palem.

**Sampling Technique:** Non probability convenience sample technique was adopted for the study.

**Development and Description of Tool:** With the help of an extensive review from various textbooks, Journals/ publications, mass media and health care personnel's. The tool was developed to assess the knowledge on problems of open field defecation in Dakkilivari palem, Nellore.

**The tools is divided into 2 parts,**

**Part-A:** Demographic variables like age, sex, education, occupation, income, type of family, latrine facility, and source of information.

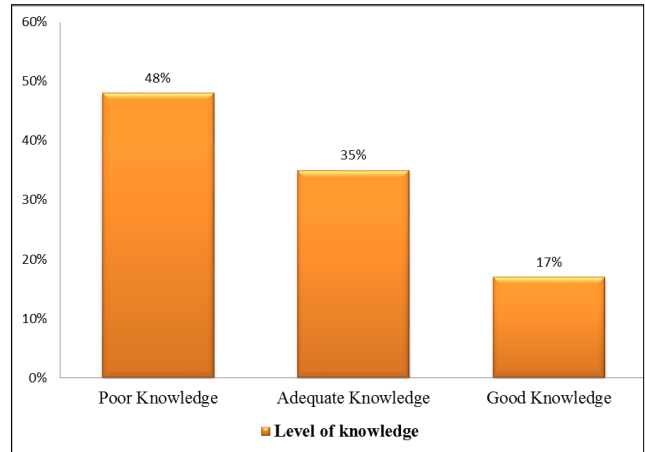
**Part-B:** Structured questionnaire, to assess the knowledge on problems of open field defecation.

**Result and Discussions**

**Table 1:** Frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge on problems of open field defecation among adults (N=100)

Level of knowledge	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Poor knowledge	48	48
Adequate knowledge	35	35
Good knowledge	17	17
Total	100	100

Table no-1: Shows that with regard to level of knowledge on problems of open field defecation among adults, 48(48%) had poor Knowledge, 35(35%) had adequate knowledge and 17 (17%) had good Knowledge.



**Fig 1:** Percentage distribution of adults based on level of knowledge

**Table 2:** Mean and standard deviation of level of knowledge among adults in problems of open field defecation. (N=100)

Criteria	Mean	Standard deviation
Level of knowledge	15.67	3.95

Table 2: Shows the mean and standard deviation of level of knowledge on problems of open field defecation, mean is 15.67 with standard deviation is 3.95.

Association between the level of knowledge on problems of open filed defecation among adults with their selected socio demographic variables. There is a significant association between the education, occupation, family income and latrine facility and non significant association between the age, gender, type of family and source of information at the level of  $p < 0.05$ .

**Nursing Implications**

**Nursing Practice:** Information booklets to be provided to the adults in the language they understand with appropriate pictures to improve their knowledge on open field defecation.

**Nursing Education:** Adults should be educated related to problems of open field defecation and mode of transmission of diseases.

**Nursing Administration:** Nursing administration should develop certain plans and polices to be implemented to improve the knowledge on problems of open field defecation.

**Nursing Research:** The nurses should be encourage to do research in the field of interest regarding critical ill patients

**Conclusion**

The study concluded that the level of knowledge on problems of open field defecation among adults 48(48%) had Poor Knowledge, 35 (35%) had adequate knowledge and 17 (17%) had good knowledge. The majority of the adults have poor knowledge about Open filed defecation, they need effective health education to change their healthy life style practices

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