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## Knowledge of mother regarding growth and development of infant

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### Abstract

Health system and resources vary from one country to another country. The mother is a person who is available for a child. The knowledge of growth and development will help the mother to monitor her child's stage to stage development according month and year periodically.

It will help the mothers to find out abnormalities in growth and development and provide prevention and early hospitalization in abnormal cases early as possible.

As the malnutrition in infancy is leading cause of infant mortality in developing country. The maternal knowledge regarding growth and development will prevent the cause of infant mortality.

**Materials and Methods:** A non-experimental descriptive survey and quantitative approach was used. 100 mothers who are having infant were selected from community area of Pune city by Non-probability purposive sampling technique.

**Result:** Maximum samples 57(57%) belongs with the age group of 24 to 28 years of age. Maximum samples 50 (50%) belonged to secondary education. Majority of samples 85 (85%) belongs to Hindu caste. Maximum samples are 64 (64%) belongs to nuclear family. Majority of samples 88 (88%) are housewife's. Majority 86 (86%) of the sample had average knowledge followed by 14(14%) was in good knowledge score and none of them was in poor knowledge score.

**Conclusion:** The researcher conducted a study "A Study to assess the knowledge of mother regarding growth and development of infant in selected areas of Pune city"

The result of data analyzed specified that the level of knowledge score of growth and development among multigravida mothers were 14% good and 86% average.

**Keywords:** Assess, knowledge, infant, mothers, growth, development

### 1. Introduction

Growth is an essential feature of life of a child that distinguishes him or her from an adult. Growth refers to an increase in the physical size of the whole or any of its parts. Growth monitoring and promotion is an important aspect in childcare. Childcare in a right perspective is very important, as children are our future generation. Care implies not only providing children with proper food and shelter but also their growth, psychological, emotional and social development. This sort of upbringing helps in developing a physically, psychologically, emotionally and socially fit personality. It involves mothers and health workers in a meaningful and reinforcing way, aiming at action before overt malnutrition occurs. Growth monitoring is best initiated from birth rather than when the child is already 2 to 3 years.

The mothers play an important role in the life of children. Infants are usually seen at health care facilities for health maintenance at least six times during the first year. Anticipatory guidance offered at these visits can help parents prepare for the rapid changes that mark the first year of life.

### 2. Research Methodology

A non-experimental descriptive survey and quantitative approach was used. 100 mothers who are having infant were selected from community area of Pune city by Non-probability purposive sampling technique. Tool consists of two section. Section 1 consist of demographic variables and section 2 consist of structured knowledge questionnaire.

The tool was validated by experts and translated into Marathi which was again validated. The value is 0.928 which is highly reliable.

### 3. Findings

#### Section-1

It dealt with the analysis of the baseline data of the mothers. The analyzed data was presented in Table no. 1 description of sample (multigravida mother) based on their demographic variables in term of frequency and percentage distribution.

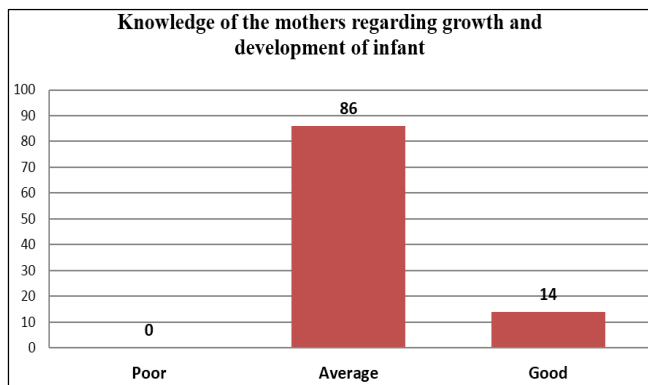
**Table 1:** Showing the frequency and percentage of demographic variables n=100

Sr. no.	Demographic variable	Participants (n=100)	
		frequency	%
	<b>AGE</b>		
1	Btw 18-23yrs	38	38%
	Btw 24-28yrs	57	57%
	Btw 29-33yrs	5	5%
	<b>Religion</b>		
2	Hindu	85	85%
	Muslim	15	15%
	Christian	0	0%
	<b>Education</b>		
3	Primary	33	33%
	Secondary	15	15%
	Graduate	17	17%
	Postgraduate	0	0%
	<b>Type Of Family</b>		
4	Joint family	22	22%
	Nuclear family	64	64%
	Extended family	14	14%
	<b>Mothers Occupation</b>		
5	Service	1	1%
	Business	11	11%
	Housewife	88	88%
	<b>No Of Children</b>		
6	1	0	0%
	2	91	91%
	More than 2	9	9%

#### Section 2

**Table 2:** Showing Knowledge score of mother regarding growth and development of infant

Knowledge score	Frequency
Poor (0-11)	0
Average (12-24)	86
Good (25-34)	14



**Fig 1:** Bar graph showing Knowledge score of mother regarding growth and development of infant

Table 2 and figure 1 shows that Majority 86% of the multigravida mother were having average knowledge regarding growth and development of an infant

**Table 3:** Mean, standard deviation values of knowledge score

Sr.no	Categories	Test N=100	
		Mean	S.D
1)	Identification of knowledge score	18.65	5.2136

#### Section 3

**Table 4:** Association of knowledge score with demographic variables

Sr.no	Demographic variables	Chi-square value	P-value
1	Age	0.915	0.09
2	Religion	0.986	0.42
3	Education	3.008	1.62
4	Type Of Family	2.312	1.14
5	Mothers Occupation	0.968	0.39
6	Number Of Children	1.439	0.96

As the p value is more than 0.05. So there is no association with age, religion, education type of family, mother occupation and number of children.

#### 4. Discussion and Research Findings

The purpose of the study was to assess the knowledge of multigravida mothers regarding growth and development of an infant

The finding of the study were discussed with references to the objective and assumption stated in this section the major findings of the recent study have been discussed with the reference to the result obtained by the other researcher

The findings of the study is supported by the research conducted by Kolobe THA study was conducted on child rearing practices and the developmental status of their infants. The sample consisted of 62 Mexican-American mothers. The results revealed that there was an association between mother's child rearing behaviours and their infant's cognitive developmental status. The association appeared stronger with motor developmental status with maternal child rearing behaviours

#### 5. Conclusion

As per the findings of present study and other supportive literature shows that most of multigravida mothers are having average knowledge regarding growth and development of an infant for improving the level of knowledge there should be educational programe during immunization and PNC period.

#### 6. Recommendation

- Study can be replicated on large sample to generalize the findings
- A study can be done to assess the effectiveness of SIM on knowledge of the mothers regarding growth and development of infant
- Study can be replicated in rural settings
- A study can be done to assess the effectiveness of videos on knowledge of the mothers regarding growth and development of infant

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