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Adult's knowledge on problems of open field defecation

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Abstract

The present cross sectional descriptive study was conducted in NTR Nagar, Nellore with the aim to identify the knowledge regarding open field defecation among adults. 100 adults were selected by using simple random sampling technique. Data was collected by using structured questionnaire. The results revealed that 10% adult had adequate knowledge followed by 20% had moderately adequate and remaining 70% had inadequate knowledge regarding open field defecation. The study concluded that needs awareness programmes and education required to adults to improve the knowledge on problems of open field defecation and thereby retrench the effects of open field defecation.

Keywords: Assess, knowledge, open field defecation

Introduction

Open defecation refers to the practice whereby people go out in fields, bushes, forests, open bodies of water, or other open spaces rather than using the toilet to defecate. The practice is rampant in India and the country is home to the world's largest population of people who defecate in the open and excrete close to 65,000 tons of faeces into the environment each day. Around 524 million people, which are nearly half the population of India, defecate in the open. India accounts for 90 per cent of the people in South Asia and 59 per cent of the 1.1 billion people in the world who practice open defecation. Open defecation poses a serious threat to the health of children in India. The practice is the main reason India reports the highest number of diarrhoeal deaths among children under-five in the world. Children Weakened By Frequent diarrhoea episodes are more vulnerable to malnutrition, stunting, and opportunistic infections such as pneumonia worm infection are two major health conditions. Open defecation also puts at risk the dignity of women in India. Women feel constrained to relieve themselves only under the cover of dark for reasons of privacy to protect their dignity.

Open defecation exposes women to the danger of physical attacks and encounters such as snake bites. Poor sanitation also cripples national development: workers produce less, live shorter lives, save and invest less. The Government of India with help of partners like UNICEF is looking at the challenge of Open Defecation Free very seriously. The government has a target to make India "Open Defecation Free" by 2019 and UNICEF India is a key partner in its flagship programme to achieve this target through the Swatchh Bharat Mission (SBM)

Material and Methods

A cross sectional descriptive study was carried out at NTR Nagar in Nellore. 100 adults were selected by using Non probability convenience sampling technique. The data collected from sample by using structured questionnaire method and documented. Statistical analysis was performed by using descriptive and inferential statistics

Criteria for sample selection: adults

Inclusion criteria:

- Age 20-60 years
- Both male and female
- Who are willing and available at the time of data collection

Exclusion criteria

- Those who are not present during the time of data collection
- Not willing to participate in the study

Description of the tool

The tool was developed with the help of related literature from various text books, journals, website, discussion and guidance from experts.

Part-i: it consist of socio demographic variables of adults like age, sex, education, occupation, income per month, type of family, type of toilet facility, sources of information
 Part-II: It consists of structured questionnaires to assess the knowledge regarding problems of open field defecation.

Plan for data analysis

The data was analyzed in terms of objectives of the study using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Sl.no.	Data analysis	Method	Remarks
1.	Descriptive statistics	Frequency, percentage distribution Mean and standard deviation	Distribution of socio demographic variables.
			To assess the knowledge regarding open field defecation
2.	Inferential statistics	Chi-square	To find out association between knowledge regarding problems of open field defecation among adults with selected socio demographic variables.

Results

The data were organized and presented under the following headings.

Section I: Frequency and percentage distribution of socio demographic Variables of adults

Section II: Percentage distribution based on the level of Knowledge regarding problems of open field defecation

Section III: Association between the level of knowledge regarding problems of open field defecation among adults.

Section I: Percentage distribution of socio demographic Variables of adults

Out of 100 adults majority of the adults 42% are in between the age group of 20-30 years, 54% are females, 42% had primary education, 31% of adults are working as daily wage workers, 37% adults are having Rs. 5000-7000 monthly income, 95% adults are having toilet facilities at home.

Section II: Percentage distribution of level of Knowledge regarding problems of open field defecation among adults.

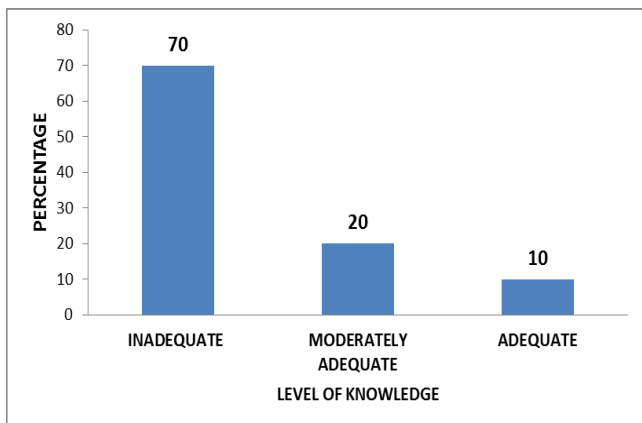
education and remaining variables has shown non-significant association with level of knowledge.

Conclusion

The study findings revealed that majority of adults were had inadequate knowledge on problems and effects of open field defecation. It indicates that Social norms and habits need to be changed if open defecation is to be successfully fought. Simply building more toilets will not do the job. Some steps to educate people about the dangers of open defecation and reward those who use latrines.

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Percentage distribution of level of knowledge

The mean knowledge score of adults was 17.63 with standard deviation of 3.008.

Section III: Association between the level of knowledge regarding open field defecation among the adults and socio demographic variables.

The study finding reveals that there is an association between the level of knowledge with socio demographic variables such availability of toilet facilities, gender,

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