

Research Article

A STUDY TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF STRUCTURED TEACHING PROGRAM ON KNOWLEDGE REGARDING COVID – 19 AMONG FIRST GNM STUDENTS : TUMKUR

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: 1. To assess the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among first year GNM students. 2. To evaluate the effectiveness of STP regarding COVID-19 by comparing pre-test and post-test knowledge level. 3. To find out the association between pre-test knowledge level regarding COVID-19 among first year GNM students with selected demographic variables. **Methodology:** a pre-experimental one group pre-test post-test design and a quantitative research approach was carried out on 60 first year GNM students selected by Convenient sampling technique to test the effectiveness of structured teaching programme. The data was collected by using structured questionnaire consists of 42 items. **Results:** The present study evaluates and found that demographic variables, majority 65% of them were in the age group of 18-19 years, majority 61.7% of them were females, majority 53.3% of them were living in nuclear family, 56.7% of them were below Rs.5000, majority 35% of them hobby is using social media, majority 76.7% of them were hosteller, Majority 58.3% of them had information from social media. **Conclusion:** The data were analysed by applying descriptive and inferential statistics. The result of the study indicated that after intervention there was an improvement in the knowledge and they gain good knowledge about covid-19. Analysis data shows that highly significance difference found between the pre-test and post-test knowledge scores at the level of (P<0.05). The hypothesis is proved and accepted.

Keywords: Effectiveness; Structured teaching programme (STP), first year GNM students, COVID-19, Knowledge.

INTRODUCTION

Corona viruses are a large family of viruses that can cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases like Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The 2019 novel corona virus, called 'SARS- CoV- 2' (previously referred to as 2019-nCoV), is a new strain that has not been identified in humans before. The disease that is caused by SARS-CoV-2 is called 'COVID-19'.¹

The official names COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 were issued by the WHO on 11 February 2020. The Director-General, Tedros Adhanom explained that CO stands for corona, VI for virus, D for disease, and 19 for 2019, the year in which the outbreak was first identified. There was a report on 3 March 2021, that social distancing and common wearing of surgical masks and similar as a common precaution against COVID-19 caused a drop in the spread rate of the common cold and flu.² India is fighting the battle against the corona virus (COVID-19) pandemic and all health care providers specially nurses play a vital role in health care system on the frontline battling against this pandemic and providing services to patients which is helpful to prevent and control COVID-19 pandemic.³ Young people worry about the course of COVID-19, how long the pandemic will last, and when they will be able to return to normal life, while being away from friends and with limited to no social life, which causes them to experience stress and tension.⁴

NEED FOR THE STUDY

However, whether student nurses possess adequate knowledge, positive perceptions, and appropriate preventive behavior in relation

to COVID-19 remains unexplored. Being components of the nursing curriculum, preventive measures are no longer new to nursing students, but experiencing and emerging new to everyone. Thus, the knowledge, perception, and preventive behavior of nursing students may be affected.⁴ Globally, there are 18,45,90,181 confirmed COVID 19 cases across 194 countries, which has led to 39,92,645 deaths, reports the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO declared the virus a global pandemic on March 11, expressing their concern on the alarming levels of spread and severity of the outbreak.⁴

The interruption of education for nursing students has been unexpected from students. In addition, the clinical practice of nursing students in hospitals has also been discontinued. Because much of nursing education consists of clinical practice, students may have been concerned about being inadequate in clinical skill development. In addition, the application skills are insufficient, the uncertainty of when, where and how to do the compensatory training for the elimination of inadequacy could stress nursing students. This research was carried out since it was thought that especially for nursing students to encounter the pandemic process for the first time, and not to engage in clinical practices in which they develop skill teaching may have an impact on their stress levels. So, this study aimed to evaluate nursing students' views on the COVID-19 pandemic.⁷

THE STUDY OBJECTIVES:

1. To assess the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 among first year GNM students.
2. To evaluate the effectiveness of STP regarding COVID-19 by comparing pre- test and post- test knowledge level.
3. To find out the association between pre-test knowledge level regarding COVID-19 among first year GNM students with selected demographic variables.

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HYPOTHESIS:

- H1:** There will be significant difference between the pre-test and post-test knowledge levels among first year GNM students regarding Covid-19.
- H2:** There will be significant association between pre test knowledge level regarding Covid-19 among first year GNM students with selected demographic variables

METHODOLOGY:

The research design of the study was pre- experimental one group pre- test, post- test design. The population was first year GNM students. A quantitative research approach will be used. The sample consists of 60 first year GNM students in Sri Ramana Maharshi School of Nursing at Tumakuru. Convenient sampling technique was used for the present study. The pre-test was conducted using structured questionnaire and structured teaching programme was given to the first year GNM students after pre-test on same day. The post was conducted after 7 days of intervention by using the same questionnaire. The data obtained was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

RESULT:

ANALYSIS OF PRE-TEST AND POST-TEST KNOWLEDGE SCORE

Analysis of Pre-Test Knowledge Score of Respondents.

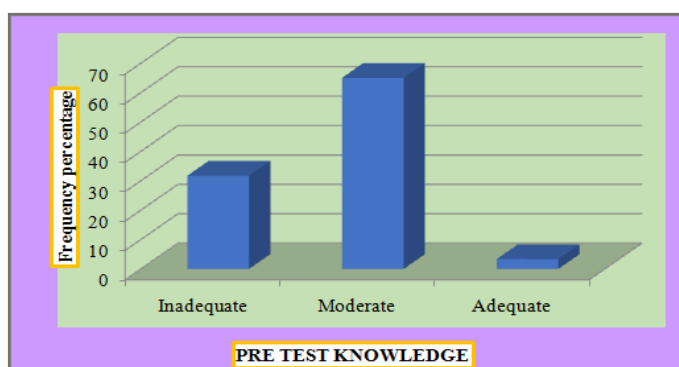


Figure 1 : Classification of Respondents based on their Pre test Knowledge scores regarding Covid-19.

Analysis of Post-test Knowledge Score of Respondents.

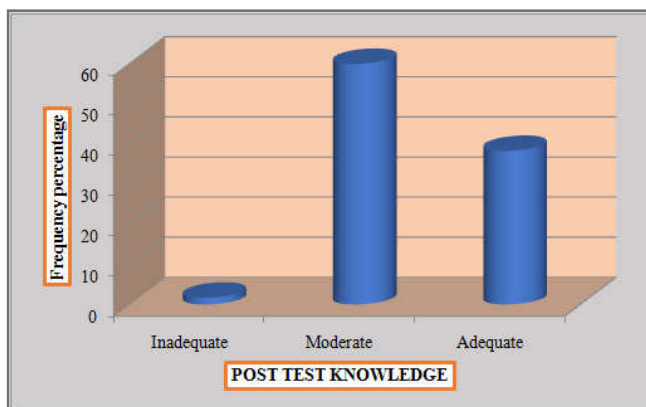


Figure 2 : Classification of Respondents based on their Post test Knowledge scores regarding Covid-19 .

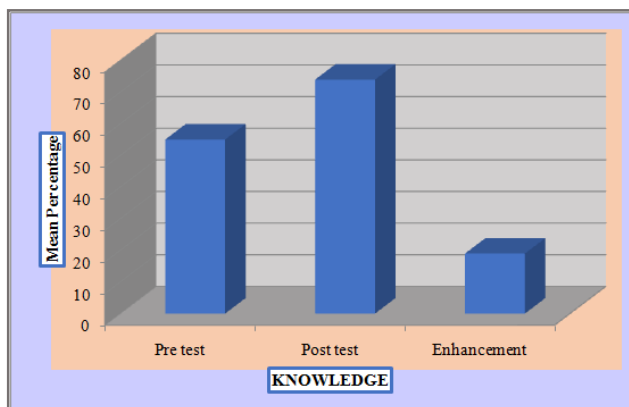


Figure 3 : Mean percentage of pre test and post test and enhanced Knowledge scores of respondents regarding Covid-19.

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES AND PRE-TEST KNOWLEDGE SCORES.

Demographic variable	Category	Knowledge level				x ² Value	P Value
		≤ Median		> Median			
		N	%	N	%		
Age	18 - 19 years	28	46.7	11	18.3	0.09 (NS)	P<0.05
	20 – 21 years	11	18.3	4	6.7		
	22 & above	4	6.7	2	3.3		
Gender	Male	14	23.3	9	15.0	0.14 (NS)	P<0.05
	Female	29	48.3	8	13.3		
Religion	Hindu	21	35.0	7	11.7	0.84 (NS)	P<0.05
	Muslim	14	23.3	5	8.3		
	Christian	8	13.3	5	8.3		
Type of Family	Nuclear	20	33.3	12	20.0	02.38 (NS)	P<0.05
	Joint	23	38.3	5	8.3		
Family monthly income	Rs. 5,000 or less	26	43.3	8	13.3	1.17 (NS)	P<0.05
	Rs. 5,000 – 10,000	14	23.3	6	10.0		
	Rs. 11,000 – 15,000	2	3.3	3	5.0		
	Rs.15,000 or more	1	1.7	0	0.0		
Hobbies	News paper reading	7	11.7	5	8.3	2.19 (NS)	P<0.05
	Watching TV	10	16.7	5	8.3		
	Using social media	17	28.3	4	6.7		
	More than 3	9	15.0	3	5.0		
Place of residence	Hosteller	34	56.7	12	20.0	0.48 (NS)	P<0.05
	Day scholar	9	15.0	5	8.3		
Source of information	Social media	30	50.0	5	8.3	8.71 (S)	P>0.05
	News outlet	6	10.0	4	6.7		
	family and friends	5	8.3	6	10.0		
	Formal education	2	3.3	2	3.3		

DISCUSSION:

The overall score of the pre-test mean 23.1, standard deviation 3.02 and mean percentage was 55% in addition to that the overall score of the post-test mean 31.06, standard deviation 3.74 and mean percentage was 73.95%. These percentage shown that there is a significant effect of knowledge regarding COVID-19 of first year GNM students in the post test. After administration of STP, the result shows that knowledge level in post-test, the mean score is 31.06, standard deviation is 3.74 and the overall mean percentage was 73.95%. Hence, the overall pre test and post test and enhanced mean percentage of Knowledge scores of respondents regarding Covid-19. In pre-test, overall mean percentage of knowledge score was 55% and that of the post-test was 73.95% with the enhancement of 18.96%. The statistical paired 't' value 34.60 is greater than the table value 2.02 which implies that the difference between the pre-test and post-test knowledge scores found to be statistically significant at 5% level. Hence stated null hypothesis H01 is rejected and research

hypothesis H1 is accepted. Association of pre- test knowledge level with demographic variables was done using chi-square test. Only the source of information had significant association with pre- test findings. But age, gender, religion, type of family, family income, hobbies and place of residence had shown no significant association with pre-test findings of the first year GNM students after the administration of structured teaching programme.

According to the hypothesis of the study there is significant association between pre-test knowledge level with selected demographic variable, hence alternative hypothesis (H2) is accepted. The findings with regard to pre-test revealed that majority of first year GNM students with the age of 18-22 & above years, gender, religion, type of family, studying first year GNM had the family income of less than Rs.5000/- per month, hobbies and place of residence has not got much information about COVID-19 had increased knowledge after administering structured teaching programme and the knowledge was considered to be adequate as compared to pre-test level. Thus, the study shows a strong association between the knowledge regarding COVID-19 and selected demographic variables.

CONCLUSION

It was found that majority of first year GNM students has moderately adequate knowledge regarding COVID-19 as assessed in pre-test and needs intervention or health education in the above areas. The study findings showed that there was a significant increase in the knowledge of first year GNM students after administration of STP regarding COVID-19. Hence it was concluded that structured teaching programme was highly effective in improving knowledge of first year GNM students regarding COVID-19.

RECOMMENDATION:

The present study recommendations the following in different areas -

- 1) A similar study can be done on large scale.
- 2) Comparative study can be undertaken to find out the difference in knowledge among staff nurses serving in urban and rural hospitals/government or private hospital.
- 3) A similar study can be conducted among care giver.
- 4) Recommended to conduct true experimental design.

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