

ASSOCIATION OF PREVALENCE OF DOMESTIC ACCIDENTS AMONG PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH OCCUPATION OF MOTHER

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ABSTRACT

It is a study taken out to assess prevalence of Domestic accidents and its characteristics among Pre-school children in selected Community of Amritsar, Punjab. The objective was to find out association of prevalence of Domestic accidents in pre-school children with occupation of mother. Literature related to prevalence of Domestic accidents in pre-school children was retrieved. A quantitative research approach and a cross-sectional research design was found suitable for the study. The investigator selected a sample of 693 preschool children in selected community of Amritsar, Punjab. Survey technique was used to select a sample of 693 preschool children from the community. All the children were selected as sample in the age group of 3-5 years. List of all preschool children in the age group of 3-5 years was taken from the survey & census register of ANMs of the community.. Prevalence was assessed using interview questionnaire. The association of prevalence of Domestic accidents with occupation of mother was found to be statistically non-significant i.e. Chi-square=5.697 by using statistical calculations. On conclusion, it was found that occupation of mother has no affect on prevalence of Domestic accidents in Pre-school children. A study on working and non-working mothers can be recommended to yield better results.

Key words: Association, prevalence, Domestic accidents, pre-school children.

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INTRODUCTION

WHO (2008)¹ stated that domestic accidents are worldwide public health issue. In USA, household accidents constitute almost 20% of all unintentional injuries which is the 5th leading cause of death. Most importantly with the advancement of technology, the incidence of domestic accidents is increasing even in the developing countries. For example, in Shiraz province of Iran domestic accidents increases at a rate of 24.4% increase each year. In today's world, in the developed as well as the developing countries, danger prevails not only on the roads, but it also exists in the home and playgrounds. Every year, thousands of children die or are permanently disabled as a result of accidental injuries. In many developing countries, injuries are one of the major causes of death in children in the age group of 1-5 years. Many studies have been undertaken in different parts of the world and in India to study the epidemiology of injuries in children under 5 years of age. Most of these studies are hospital-based. This gives only a limited picture of the situation. **Nath & Naik (2007)**.² Unintentional injuries are the cause of death and disability for millions of children every year in low-income countries. Challenging living conditions, heavy traffic, a lack of safe play space and an absence of child care options, together with a disproportionate vulnerability to injury, combine to put children at high risk. Inaccessible and unaffordable emergency services add to the number of resulting deaths and impairments. Yet this major public health problem receives relatively little attention. Because communicable disease and nutritional problems continue to rank higher as causes of child mortality and morbidity in most of the developing world, injury is perceived as a less serious problem. Existing research is scanty and is largely limited to hospital-based studies, which cannot present a comprehensive picture of either causes or outcomes. Development of preventive measures is hampered not only by limited health budgets, but by a tendency (not unique to low-income countries) to see injuries as random events, and hence as unpredictable and uncontrollable. There is an urgent need for more research that can contribute to effective analyses of the situation, and especially for locally-based research and record keeping, which is most likely to contribute to awareness and to practical and well-targeted prevention measures. **Bartlett SN.(2002)**³

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research Approach

A quantitative research approach was adopted to accomplish the objective of the study to assess the prevalence of domestic accidents among preschool children in selected community of Amritsar, Punjab. A quantitative approach was found appropriate for the study.

Sample and Sampling Technique

The investigator selected a sample of 693 preschool children in selected community of Amritsar, Punjab. Survey technique was used to select a sample of 693 preschool children from the community

Description and Development of Tool

The final tool consisted of following two parts:

Part 1: Sample Characteristics

This part consisted of 9 items for obtaining personal information i.e. age of mother, age of the child, gender of the child, occupation of mother, occupation of mother, religion, type of house, family income and order of child.

Part 2: Interview Questionnaire

This part consisted of structured multiple choice questions regarding different aspects of prevalence of domestic accidents in preschool children. This interview questionnaire consisted of 09 multiple choice items.

Data Collection Procedure

Before data collection, written consent was taken from mothers regarding their participation in study. The purpose of gathering data from them was explained to them and confidentiality was assured. The investigator introduced her to the mothers and the purpose of the study was explained to the mothers before conducting interview. Directions were given to them and they were assured that their responses would be kept confidential. The time taken for data collection from one mother was 30-35 minutes.

RESULTS

Objective 1: To assess prevalence of Domestic accidents among Pre-school children

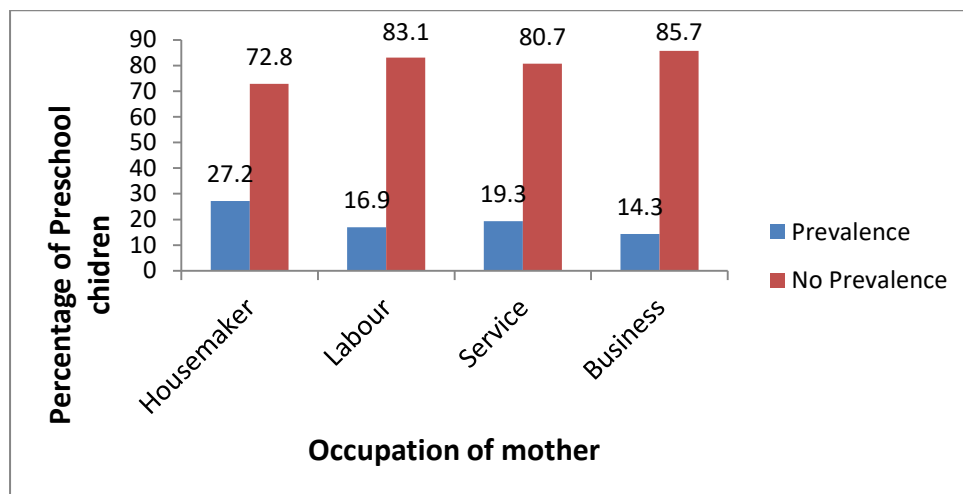


Figure 1: Percentage distribution of prevalence of Domestic accident among preschool children according to occupation of mother

Objective 2: To find out association of prevalence among pre-school children with occupation of mother.

Table 1: Association of Prevalence of Domestic Accidents in preschool children with occupation of mother

N=519

| Occupation of mother | No Prevalence n(%) | Prevalence n(%) | Total n(%) | df | χ^2 |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|----|---------------------|
| Housemaker | 146(27.2%) | 391(72.8%) | 537(77.5%) | 3 | 5.697 ^{NS} |
| Labour | 10(16.9%) | 49(83.1%) | 59(8.5%) | | |
| Service | 16(19.3%) | 67(80.7%) | 83(12.0%) | | |
| Business | 2(14.3%) | 12(85.7%) | 14(2.0%) | | |

NS-Non-significant

Table 1 depicts association of domestic accidents in preschool children with occupation of the mother. Chi-square was computed to find out the association of occupation of mother with prevalence of domestic accident in preschool children which came out to be statistically non-significant.

DISCUSSION

Epidemiological studies about home accidents among preschool children have mainly been based on hospital records than survey methods. Population-based studies on home accidents are uncommon; however, they could provide more information, as they include unreported home accidents. **Carlsson A et al (2006)**⁵ The present study shows that prevalence of Domestic accidents was found maximum in pre-school children whose mothers were house-maker (149) followed by service mothers(16), labourers(10) and business mothers(02). The association of occupation of mother with prevalence of domestic accident in pre-school children came out to be statistically non-significant i.e. chi-square <5.697. Similar findings were reported by **Waled Amen Mohammed Ahmed (2013)**⁶. Prevalence was more in working mothers (17.1%) followed by non-working (12.8%). Association was found to be non-significant i.e. p-value <0.456.

CONCLUSION

It concludes that occupation of mother is not associated with prevalence of Domestic accidents among Pre-school children.

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