**KNOWLEDGE AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES OF CHILDHOOD DIARRHOEA AMONG WOMEN OF CHILD BEARING AGE ATTENDING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE IN ELEME LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF RIVERS STATE**

**BY**

**AGUAGWA, KINGSLEY UGONNA**

**PH/T/13/247**

**BEING A RESEARCH REPORT (PUH 456) SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, MADONNA UNIVERSITY NIGERIA, ELELE CAMPUS, RIVERS STATE IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc) DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

**SEPTEMBER, 2017**

TITLE PAGE

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**Certification Page**

This research work on knowledge and management practices of childhood diarrhea among women of child bearing age attending primary health care Centre in Elele Local Government Area of Rivers State is an original work carried out by Aguagwa, Kingsley Ugonna with the Registration Number PH/T/13/247.

………………………………… ………………………………

Aguagwa Kingsley Ugonna Date

Researcher

**Appendix E**

**Communities in Eleme LGA, Rivers State**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| S/N | **Nchia** | **Odido** |
|  | Agbonchia | Ebubu |
|  | Akpajo | Ekporo |
|  | Alesa | Eteo |
|  | Aleto | Onne |
|  | Alode |  |
|  | Ogale |  |

**Appendix H**

**Reliability Test**

Knowledge and Management Practices of Childhood Diarrhea among Women of Child Bearing Age Attending Primary Health Care Centre In Eleme Local Government Area of Rivers State.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Case Processing Summary** | | | |
|  | | N | % |
| Cases | Valid | 20 | 100.0 |
| Excludeda | 0 | .0 |
| Total | 20 | 100.0 |
| a. List wise deletion based on all variables in the procedure. | | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Reliability Statistics** | | |
| Cronbach's Alpha | Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items | N of Items |
| .805 | .796 | 15 |

**CHAPTER THREE**

**Methods**

This chapter presents the methods and used procedures followed to prosecute the study.

Research design

Area of study

Population of study

Sample and sampling techniques

Instruments for data collection

Validity of instrument

Reliability of instrument

Methods of data collection

Method of data analysis.

**Research Design**

Cross sectional survey research design was adopted in this study in order to find out the situation as they exist in the natural setting. According to Muaz (2013), Research design is the framework that has been created to find answers to research questions. According to Barrat and Kirwan (2009) Cross sectional design can only measure differences between or from among a variety of people, subjects, or phenomena rather than a process change.

The successful application of this study design is by Mukhtar and Mohamed (2010), in investigating a survey of mothers' knowledge about childhood diarrhoea and its management among a marginalized community of Morang, Nepal suggests possible success if applied in this study.

**Area of Study**

Eleme is located in Rivers State of South-eastern Nigeria. It is around 25km due East of Port Harcourt, the capital city of Rivers State. On the South-eastern Nigerian map, Eleme can be found between the coordinates 7E and 8E, 4N and 5N. Its headquarters was changed from Nchia to Ogale by the legislative council during the Chairmanship of Honourable Olaka Nwogu now of the National Assembly. The administrative offices have always been located in Ogale, believed to be the first town of Eleme. Eleme is made up of 10 communities. There are two major towns in eleme which are Nchia and Odido. Communities in Nchia are Agbonchia, Akpajo, Alesa, Aleto, Alode, and Ogale and under Odido there are Ebubu, Ekporo, Eteo and Onne. In Eleme LGA they have community heads, farmers, traders, civil servants and health workers. Eleme is traditionally an agriculturally society, with farmers travelling out to farms situated around the villages, though the emergence of white-collar jobs and industrial activities going on in modern-day Eleme tend to shift the paradigm. There are both private and government owned hospitals present in both rural and urban areas.

**Population for the Study**

According to National Population Commission, 2006 in that period, 5291 women of childbearing age attended primary health care center from January to September 2006. With a population growth rate of 2.6% for Nigeria, it is estimated that by 2016, the number of child bearing mothers attending primary health care center in Eleme LGA would be 6667 (See Appendix C).

**Sample and Sampling Techniques**

The sample size for this study comprises 380 women of child bearing age which represent the entire population of women of childbearing age attending PHC’s in Eleme LGA using Taro Yamane formula (See Appendix D).

The sample selection involved three stages. The first stage involved the use of cluster sampling techniques to group the primary health care centres under the existing 10 communities

**Reliability of the Instrument**

Split-half method was used to establish the reliability of the instrument. In split-half reliability, a test for a single knowledge area is split into two parts and then both parts given to one group of students at the same time. The reliability of the questionnaire was established using Cronbach’s Alpha method. Twenty (20) copies of the questionnaire were administered to women of child bearing age that were not part of the study and randomly drawn from two selected primary health centers from two (2) communities in Ikwere LGA, Rivers State. The correlation co-efficient value was considered adequate enough to be utilized for the study since the value is 0.805 and 0.796 (Appendix H).

**Method of Data Collection**

In order to gain access to and co-operation from the respondents, a letter of introduction from the Head of Department of public Health Madonna University was obtained by the investigator introducing himself and explaining the purpose of the study. The researcher presented the letter to the medical Directors or Chief Nursing officers of all the sampled primary health care centers. The copies of the questionnaire were administered to the respondents in their respective primary health care centers with three research assistants who were briefed on the content and administration of the instrument. The aim was to collect completed copies back from the respondents and keep the respondents under supervision to ensure they supply independent responses and also assist the illiterate respondents in the reading and writing down their opinions for them. Out of the 380 copies of the questionnaire distributed, 360 copies were returned, this represented 94 percent return rate. This was due to damage to some questionnaire.

**Method of Data Analysis**

After collection of the administration copies of the questionnaire, improperly completed questionnaire copies were removed, thus will not be used for data analysis. The data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS, version 20). The data were analyzed on item by item basis. Mean statistics were used to answer the research question. The null hypotheses were tested using Chi – Squared (X2) for data analysis at 0.05 level of significance and at the appropriate degree of freedom. The results were later presented in chapter four.

**Abstract**

This study investigated knowledge and management practices of childhood diarrhoea among women of child bearing age attending primary health care Centre in Eleme Local Government Area of Rivers State. The study design adopted for this study was cross sectional survey research design. The population consisted of 6667 mothers attending PHCs in Eleme Local government area, Rivers state. The sample of this study consisted of 380 mothers which were selected from 10 health centres in Eleme LGA. The instrument for data collection was a researcher- designed structured questionnaire. The instrument was validated by four lecturers in Public Health Department, Madonna University, Elele Campus. Reliability of the instrument was ensured using Cronbach’s Alpha. The data was analysed with frequency and percentage as well as mean statistics for the research questions while Chi-Square (x2) were adopted for testing null hypotheses. The main purpose of this study is to investigate the knowledge and management practices of childhood diarrhoea among women of child bearing age attending primary health care Centre in Eleme Local Government Area of Rivers State. The results showed that mothers had a good knowledge and management practice of childhood diarrhea. Furthermore, no significant difference was found among mothers in their knowledge of childhood diarrhea based on age. Based on these findings, recommendations such as continuing medical and health education for all mothers as well as women of child bearing age for emerging diseases of public health importance were made.

**Key words:** Childhood, diarrhea, knowledge, management.