



## Original Article

# Knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents in children among mothers attending MCH Clinic

### Abstract:

**Objectives:** This study was done to assess the knowledge of mothers regarding prevention of minor accidents among children, to find out the association between knowledge and demographic variable

**Materials and method:** sample size was 100 mothers attending MCH clinic & having at least one toddler. The devices the are used for data collection was: Demographic Performa, Knowledge questionnaire on minor accident prevention. data collection technique was through interview.

**Results:** Most of the participants (59%) were of age 18-25 years above and, (87%) of them were Hindu. Majority of the people's education level was primary level i.e. (33%) and Most(73%) of the people's were housewife, most of them has age of child 1-3 years(42%) and majority (60%) of people were nuclear family and majority of them were other ethnicity (40%) .Most (73%) of the people had average knowledge, 26% had good knowledge and least (1%) had poor knowledge regarding accident prevention in infant and toddler among mothers. There is significant association between knowledge and age level of education and age of a child and non significant between knowledge and family types, occupation and ethnicity.

**Conclusion:** The study reveals that the 73% people have average knowledge, 26% people have good knowledge and 1% people have poor knowledge regarding accident prevention of children under five.

**Key Words:** Mother; Under five children; Knowledge.

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### Introduction

Injuries are major causes of death during infancy, especially for children 6 to 12 months old. The top leading causes of injury to infants were falls, ingestion injuries, and burns constant. Vigilance, awareness and supervision are essential as the child gains increased locomotor and manipulative skills that are coupled with an insatiable curiosity about the environment.<sup>1</sup>

Injuries do not always indicate neglect. It is a difficult task to watch children carefully without overprotecting or unnecessarily confining them. Small falls help children learn the dangers of highest; touching a hot object once can emphasize to the child the pain of burn. Parents need to remember that infants and young children cannot anticipate danger or understand where it is or is not present. It must be remembered that child need to be physically removed from the situation.<sup>2</sup>

unintentional injuries rank as the number- one cause of death and a leading cause of hospitalization for the infants and toddlers.<sup>3</sup> The importance of the mothers role in childhood

accident prevention has long been recognized, although many studies suggests that many mothers are unsure of that role, feel inadequately prepared for it and recognize significant constraints on their accident prevention activity. The Health of the nation suggested that specific accident prevention activities should be undertaken by the mothers.<sup>4</sup>

The world health day 2004 also provided a forum of advocacy in allocating more attention and resources for the prevention of accidents.<sup>4</sup> An injury is the number one cause of death among children developing countries and fifth in world among the entire population. In most countries including Nepal.<sup>5</sup>

### Methods

Descriptive survey approach was undertaken among 100 mothers attending MCH clinic and having children at least one infant or toddler. Instrument for data collection was Demographic Performa and Knowledge questionnaire on minor accident prevention. Data was analyzed using SPSS-Package (version 12.0).

## Results

**Table 1: Description of sample characteristics N=100**

S. No.	Sample characteristics	f	%
1	<b>Age</b>		
	18-25	59	59%
	26-33	38	38%
	34 above	3	3%
2	<b>Level of education</b>		
	Illiterate	5	5%
	Primary	33	33%
	Secondary	20	20%
3	<b>Occupation</b>		
	Housewife	73	73%
	Skilled worker	15	15%
	Unskilled worker	4	4%
4	<b>Age of child</b>		
	0-1	29	29%
	2-3	42	42%
	Above 3	29	29%
5	<b>Type of family</b>		
	Nuclear	60	60%
6	<b>Religion</b>		
	Hindu	85	85%
	Buddhist	10	10%
7	<b>Ethnicity</b>		
	Brahmin	29	29%
	Chhetri	25	25%
	Newar	6	6%
	Others	40	40%

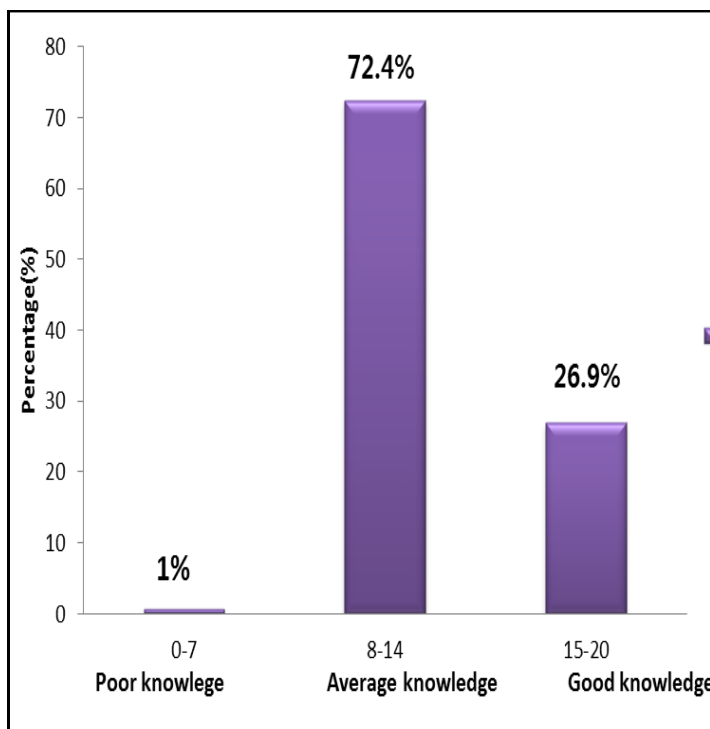
Data presented in Table 1 Show that Most of the participants (59%) were of age above 18 to 25 years, Majority of the mother's education level was Higher secondary and above i.e. (42%) ,most (73%) of the people's were housewife, most of them has age of child 2-3 years , majority (60%) of people were nuclear family, most (85%) of them were Hindu and majority (40%) of them were other ethnicity.

**Table 2: Range of Knowledge on accident prevention N=100**

Knowl- edge Score	Range	Min score	Max score	Mean	Mode	Median	Standard deviation
	11	7	18	12.94	12.50	12	2.044

Mean % of knowledge score =  $12.94/20 \times 100$   
= 64.7%

Data presented in Table 2 show the data regarding knowledge on accident prevention which was collected by administering knowledge questionnaire.



**Fig: 1 Bar diagram showing Knowledge Score**

Fig: 1 reveals most (72.4%) of the people had average knowledge and least (1%) had poor knowledge regarding accident prevention and (26.9%) had good knowledge.

**Table 3: Association of demographic variables with Knowledge****N=100**

Sample characteristics	Knowledge score			Chi-Square		df	Significance
	Poor	Average	Good	Calculated value	Table Value		
<b>1. Age in years</b>							
18-25	1	42	16	4.72	0.58	6	NS
26-33	0	30	18				
34 above	0	1	2				
<b>2. Level of education</b>							
Illiterate	0	3	2	6.04	0.42	6	NS
Primary	0	27	6				
Secondary	1	13	6				
Higher Secondary and above	0	30	12				
<b>3. 5.Occupation status</b>							
Housewife	0	56	17	15.0	0.02	6	S
Skilled worker	0	11	4				
Unskilled worker	0	3	1				
Others	1	3	4				
<b>4. Age of a child</b>							
0-1	0	22	7	4.15	0.66	6	NS
2-3	1	27	14				
Above 3	0	24	5				
<b>Family types</b>							
Nuclear	0	45	15	12.5	0.14	4	NS
Joint	1	28	11				
<b>6. Religion</b>							
Hindu	1	60	24	2.21	0.97	6	NS
Buddhist	0	9	1				
Christian	0	3	1				
Others	0	1	0				
<b>7. Ethnicity</b>							
Brahmin	0	17	12	11.5	.07	6	N S
Chhetri	0	16	9				
Newar	0	5	1				
Others	1	35	4				

Table 3 reveals there is significant association between knowledge and occupation but there is no between knowledge and age, level of education, age of a child, family types, religion and ethnicity.

### Discussion

Study findings have been discussed in terms of objectives and with the findings of the other studies.

A study was conducted to Assess knowledge and practice of mothers towards accidents among children less than five years in rural areas in assist Government (2003).The study revealed that (74.5%) of mothers reported incomplete knowledge and (14.5%) of mothers were do not know the causes of home accidents, while (11.0) of them reported complete knowledge. These study contradicts present studies as majority 73% of mothers were having average knowledge regarding prevention of minor accidents among children.<sup>6</sup>

A study was conducted at Taddah to find accidental injuries among under five and child leading to death. Sample was parents in well baby clinics. The study revealed majority (29%) of the mothers were likely to be uneducated. This study contradicts present study as Majority (33%) of the mother's education level was higher secondary and above.<sup>7</sup>

### Conclusion

The study reveals that the 73% people have average knowledge, 26% people have good knowledge and 1% people have poor knowledge regarding accident prevention of children under five. So people should be educated and made aware about accident preventive measures in infant and toddlers through different means such as media which may help to prevent from accident.

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