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Assessment of knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers in selected ICDS centers of Moradabad, U.P., India

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Abstract

Anganwadi centres are a component of the 1975-instituted ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) Scheme. Anganwadi employees are those employed at the village level who provide services under the ICDS Scheme. In accordance with the National Policy for Children, the programme was begun. The largest of India's multifaceted welfare programme, ICDS, aims to help millions of women and children who are suffering from nutritional deficiency illnesses, illiteracy, a lack of understanding and poor knowledge. That is essential in childcare facilities to evaluate development using precise anthropometric indicators (weight, length, and body mass index) the answer with which nutritional status or failure in growth. The primary aim of this study was to assess the knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers in selected ICDS centres of Moradabad. To test the Anganwadi workers knowledge with growth monitoring, quantitative research was used in the current research. This study's research design was descriptive research design. In this research, structured knowledge questionnaires were employed as the primary measures to evaluate the knowledge growth monitoring of Anganwadi workers. This study was conducted at selected Anganwadi centre Dist. Moradabad, UP. The study revealed that 15(16.7%) Anganwadi workers have poor knowledge, followed by 58(64.4%) Anganwadi workers have average knowledge and 17(18.9%) Anganwadi workers have good knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children. Overall knowledge score, range varies to min 4 to max 26, mean score was 15, median score was 16 and the standard deviation was 5.1.

Keywords: Growth monitoring, under five assessment, anganwadi workers, knowledge

Introduction

In its literal sense, "ANGAN" implies an outdoor area. The government of India's Social and Women Welfare Department has developed Anganwadi centres. Anganwadi centres are a component of the 1975-instituted ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) Scheme. Anganwadi employees are those employed at the village level who provide services under the ICDS Scheme. In accordance with the National Policy for Children, the programme was begun. The largest of India's multifaceted welfare programme, ICDS, aims to help millions of women and children who are suffering from nutritional deficiency illnesses, illiteracy, a lack of understanding and poor. Anganwadi worker is a multifunctional agency chosen among the community around it. The most at-risk population segments are the focus of AWW. Children aged 1 to 6 years old, pregnant women, nursing moms, women in reproductive age (15 to 45 years), and teenage girls aged 11 to 18 are among the beneficiaries. The unconventional early childhood education, supplemental nutrition, immunization, routine wellness assessments, growth monitoring, and transfer services are among the services provided by Anganwadi workers to children.

Objectives of the study

- To assess the knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers.
- To find out the association between the knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers with their selected demographic variables.

Assumptions

The study assumes that some information about the growth tracking for children under the age of five in certain Anganwadi centres may be preserved by the Anganwadi personnel.

Hypothesis

The hypothesis was tested under 0.05 level of significance

H1: There is significance association between the knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers with their selected demographic variables.

Materials and methods of the study

Research Approach: Quantitative Research Approach.

Research Design: Descriptive Research Design.

Sample: 90 Anganwadi Workers.

The current research used power analysis to find out the sample size and found was 90 studied by the under-described formula.

$$N = 4pq/d^2$$

P = Expected ratio

Q = 1-P, P = 20%

Q = 1-P (1-0.20) = 0.80

D = Precision 1 FD = 1% (0.1)

$N = 4 * 0.20 * 0.80 / (0.1)^2$

N = 90

Setting of the study: Selected Anganwadi centre Dist. Moradabad, UP.

Sample selection criteria

Inclusion Criteria

Anganwadi workers who were

- Interested to take part in the investigation.
- Who were accessible while data was collected.

Exclusion Criteria

- Any Anganwadi worker suffering from a significant medical condition.

Description of the tool

Tool 1 – Demographic Performa.

Tool 2- Semi Structured Knowledge Questionnaire.

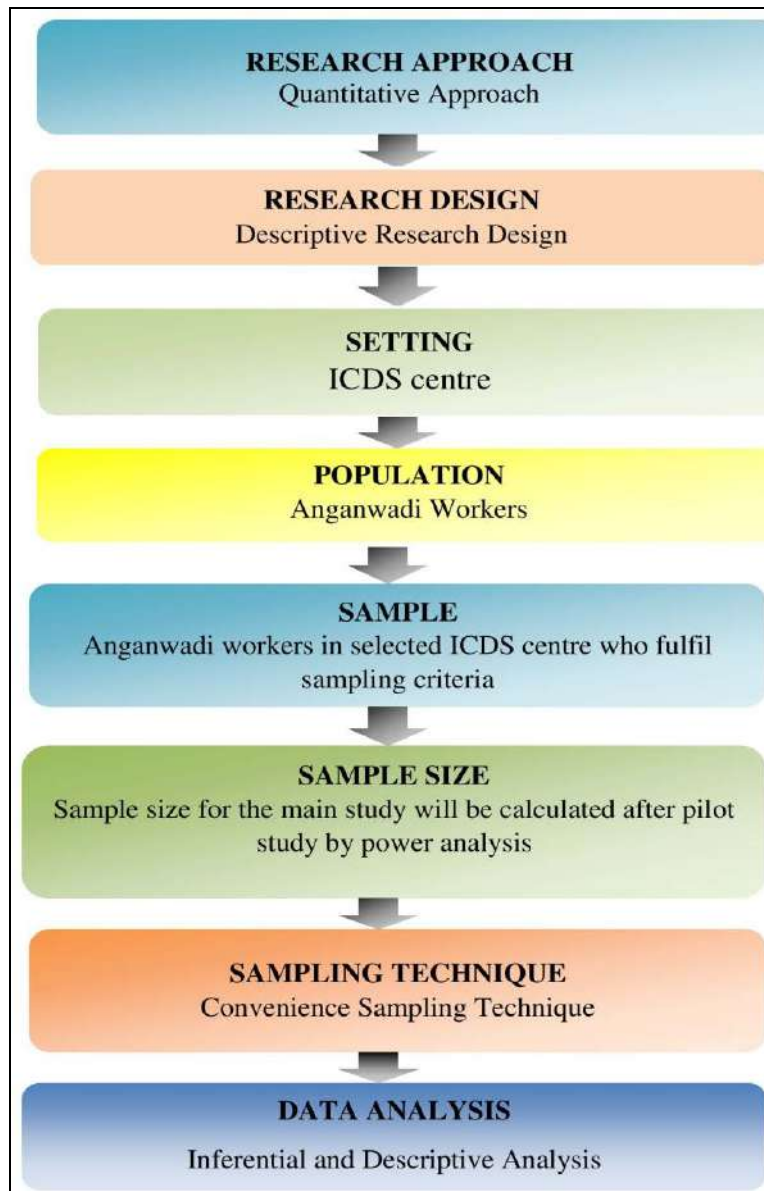


Fig 1: Schematic representation of research methodology

Result

The data collected was organized and presented under following sections:

Section 1: Description of the Socio demographic variables.

Section 2: Findings related to knowledge regarding growth-

Section 1

monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers

Section 3: Findings related to association between the knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers with their selected demographic variables

Table 1: Frequency and percentage of demographic variables

Demographic Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Training Status		
Trained	68	75.6%
Untrained	22	24.4%
Age		
19 – 25 years	3	3.3%
26 – 30 years	14	15.6%
31 – 35 years	44	48.9%
Above 35 years	29	32.2%
Marital Status		
Married	63	70%
Unmarried	21	23.4%
Unmarried	3	3.3%
Widow	3	3.3%
Working Experience		
Less than 1 years	22	24.4%
1 – 5 years	37	41.1%
More than 5 years	31	34.5%
Education		
Metric	9	10%
Above Metric	81	90%
Working Area		
Rural	65	72%
Urban	25	28%

The findings reveal that Majority 68(75.6%) of the Anganwadi workers are trained. Majority 68(75.6%) of the Anganwadi workers are trained of the samples 44(48.9%) of the Anganwadi workers belongs to the age group of 31-35 years, 63(70%) of the Anganwadi workers are married. 37(41.1%) of the Anganwadi workers have the working experience of 1-5 years followed by 81(90%) of the Anganwadi workers have the education status of above metric. And majority 65(72%) of the Anganwadi workers lives in rural area.

Section 2: Demonstrates show that 15(16.7%) Anganwadi workers have poor knowledge, followed by 58(64.4%) Anganwadi workers have average knowledge and 17(18.9%) Anganwadi workers have good knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children. Data revealed that in overall knowledge score, range varies to min 4 to max 26, mean score was 15, median score was 16 and the standard deviation was 5.1.

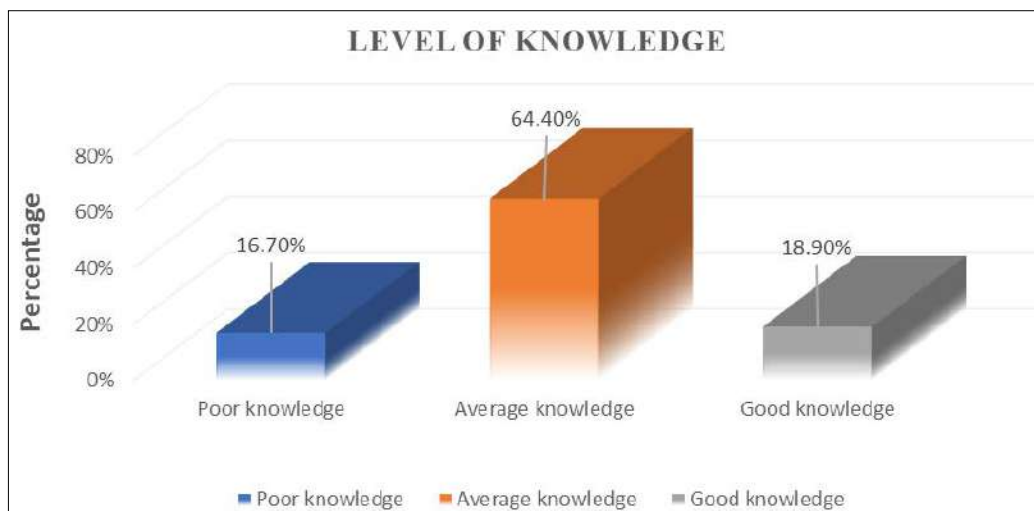


Fig 2: Frequency distribution of Anganwadi workers according to level of knowledge regarding growth-monitoring for under five children

Table 2: Assessment of knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers

No. of items	Knowledge score					
	Range	Min	Max	Mean	Median	Standard deviation
28	22	4	26	15	16	5.1

Section 3: Association table described that the knowledge level present in table 9 displays the chi-square values of age and working experience were less than the 0.05 level of significance. This proves that there was a statistically significant association between the levels of knowledge with their selected socio-demographic variables was partially

accepted. Hence that shows the stated hypothesis H₁- There will be significance association between the knowledge regarding use of growth monitoring chart for under five children among Anganwadi workers with their selected demographic variables was partially accepted. Hence, the hypothesis (H₁) is accepted.

Table 3: Association between the knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children among Anganwadi workers with their selected demographic variables

Variable	Poor knowledge	Average knowledge	Good knowledge	Chi-square value & DF	P Value	Inference
Training status						
Trained	12	42	14	0.896 DF = 2	0.639	NS
Untrained	3	16	3			
Total	15	58	17			
Age						
19-25years	0	3	0	19.538 DF = 6	0.003*	NS
26-30years	2	11	1			
31-35years	6	34	4			
Above 35years	7	10	12			
Total	15	58	17			
Marital status						
Married	9	38	16	7.538 DF = 6	0.274	NS
Unmarried	5	15	1			
Divorce / Separated	0	3	0			
Widow	1	2	0			
Total	15	58	17			
Working Experience						
Less than 1 year	3	18	1	16.055 DF = 4	0.003*	S
1-5 years	5	28	4			
More than 5 years	7	22	12			
Total	15	58	17			
Education status						
Metric	3	4	2	2.346 DF = 2	0.309	NS
Above metric	12	54	15			
Total	15	58	17			
Working area						
Rural	12	44	9	3.986 DF = 2	0.136	NS
Urban	3	14	8			
Total	15	58	17			

Conclusion

The following are the major conclusions:

- Majority 58(68.4%) of the Anganwadi workers have average knowledge regarding growth monitoring for under five children.
- There was a significant association between the level of knowledge regarding growth-monitoring for under five children with age and working experience of Anganwadi workers.

Conflicts of interest: The author claims to be free of any conflicts of interest.

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