



# A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE OF PRIMIGRAVIDAE WOMEN REGARDING SELECTED ASPECTS OF SAFE MOTHERHOOD AT UMAID HOSPITAL JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN

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## ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** A healthy pregnancy, safe delivery of a sound newborn, and an uncomplicated puerperium is the birthright of every expectant mother. Knowledge regarding conception and safe delivery are crucial to every health care provider. Pregnant mother(s) must be cared for professionally and holistically at these defining moments of their lives. Maternal morbidity and mortality are twin scourges that should not be encouraged.

**AIM OF THE STUDY:** Assess the knowledge of primigravidae women regarding selected aspects of safe motherhood.

**MATERIAL AND METHOD:** A descriptive study was carried out to assess the knowledge of primigravidae women, selected by non-probability convenience sampling, at Umaid Hospital, Jodhpur Rajasthan. Their knowledge was assessed by using a structured knowledge questionnaire and descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis.

**RESULT:** The findings of the study that approximately half (56%) of primigravidae women had moderately adequate knowledge, the scores ranged between 22-34, 26% had adequate knowledge with scores ranging between 35-44 and 18% had inadequate knowledge having scored between 0-22 regarding selected aspects of safe motherhood. The association between the knowledge level and all the selected demographic variables were found to be highly significant at the level of  $p < 0.001$  except with variable of age at marriage of the primigravidae women which was barely significant at the level of  $p < 0.05$ .

**CONCLUSION:** It can be concluded that primigravidae women had moderately adequate knowledge regarding safe motherhood as per current research recommendations. They require education to enhance their knowledge regarding safe motherhood.

**KEY WORDS:** Knowledge, primigravidae mother, safe motherhood

## INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Motherhood is nature's most beautiful experience, which can turn into a tragedy when the family loses the most precious member of that family – The Mother.

A mother's death greatly influences the health and livelihood of her surviving children, when a mother dies; her surviving children are three to ten times more likely to die within two years than those with both living parents. In addition, surviving

children often do not receive adequate health care and education as they grow up and many of them have emotional and psychological problems which in turn make them poor society members.

Reproduction though considered being a usual process in the life of a woman; it is stressful and can lead to the risk and threats to health in reproductive age group women. Unless appropriate measures are taken in time, it may reach its peak and endanger the life of women. Studies also indicate that it is more so with the illiterate or for those who have



poor knowledge regarding safe motherhood. It is estimated that most of the causes can be eliminated through proper education and raising awareness of women.

Worldwide, every five minute one women dies of pregnancy related complications, nearly 300000 women die each year; of these 90% of death occurs in developing countries.

India has a high mortality rate. In India, in every 9.5 minutes 1 woman dies from complications related to pregnancy and child birth. This adds up to total of 56,000 women per year. Maternal mortality rate in 1990 was 600 per 100,000 live births. In 2010 maternal mortality rate in India was 200 per 1,00,000 live births. The trend has not changed much in last five years as the maternal mortality rate in 2005 was 280/100000 live births.

The main reason for high maternal mortality in India is that many women are not aware of the measures that are available to prevent disorders in pregnancy as well as basic information regarding self-care during pregnancy. Many do not receive timely help because of either they are unaware of the help available or the help is not within reach.

The investigator's experience in the clinical area was that many mothers' came to the hospital only when they had some complications like, loss of fetal movements for one week or so, mother's diagnosed with fetal anomalies in the third trimester and mothers with gross anemia. It was difficult to save the mother and the baby in such condition. The cause was mainly due to mother's ignorance, unawareness and lack of information and knowledge regarding Safe Motherhood.

Thus by taking all the above factors into consideration, the investigator felt the need to assess the knowledge of primigravidae mother's regarding "Safe Motherhood".

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the knowledge of Primigravidae women regarding selected aspects of Safe Motherhood.
2. To find the association between the knowledge of Primigravidae women regarding Safe Motherhood with selected demographic variables.

### HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

- **H<sub>1</sub>**:- There is a significant association between the knowledge of Primigravidae women regarding selected aspects of Safe Motherhood and selected demographic variables.

### OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

- **Knowledge:** It refers to the level of understanding of primigravidae women regarding selected aspects of Safe Motherhood as expressed by their responses to the items of the questionnaire.
- **Primigravidae:** In the present study it refers to a women who are pregnant for the first time and belongs to the age group of 18-39 years.
- **Selected Aspects:** In the present study, it includes antenatal care, antenatal check-up, antenatal immunization, antenatal diet and, and antenatal practices.
- **Safe Motherhood:** In the present study it means that no woman should die or be harmed by a pregnancy or birth.

### ASSUMPTION

- Pregnant women will have some knowledge regarding safe motherhood.
- Educational level of the mother has an impact on her knowledge regarding safe motherhood.
- The knowledge towards safe motherhood will have influence on antenatal practices.

### DELIMITATION

- The study was delimited to primigravidae mothers attending the antenatal OPD of Umaid Hospital, Jodhpur.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### • RESEARCH APPROACH

Quantitative research approach is considered appropriate for the present study.

#### • RESEARCH DESIGN

Descriptive survey design was adopted for this study.

### RESEARCH VARIABLE

#### • Research variable

Research variables are those variable which are observed and measured in natural setting as they exist without any manipulation In the descriptive study no last effect relationship is examined. In my study the research variable is knowledge level of primigravidae women regarding safe motherhood.

#### • Demographic variables

Demographic variables are the characteristics and attributes of the study sample. In my study the demographic variables are age, religion, educational status, occupation, type of family, family income, age at marriage, sources of information, participation in health awareness campaign and community.

**POPULATION**

Primigravidae Mothers attending the ANC OPD of Umaid Hospital, Jodhpur.

**SAMPLING SIZE**

In this study, the sample consists of 100 Primigravidae women between the age group of 18-39 years who are residing at Jodhpur.

**SAMPLING TECHNIQUE**

Non-probability purposive sampling technique was used for this study.

**RELIABILITY OF THE TOOL**

The reliability was established by using Karl Pearson's Split Half formula and it is found to be reliable ( $r = 0.833$ )

**MAJOR FINDING OF THE STUDY**

**Table -1 (Section – I, Table 1-10 in the study)** here, depicts, the demographic variables of primigravidae mothers who participated in the study, which being - Age group 20 – 25 (57, 57%), Religion Hindu (60 60%), Educational Status up to Secondary (52, 52%), Occupational Status Housewife (64, 64%), Type of Family Joint (47, 47%), Family Income 5000 -9999 (48, 48%), Age at Marriage 18 - 30 years (89, 89%), Source of Information Health personal (85, 85%), Participation in Health

Awareness Campaign No (100, 100%) and Community mostly being Urban (82, 82%).

**Table -2 (Section – II, Table 11 in the study),** revealed that the majority (56%) of the primigravidae women, the level of knowledge was Moderately Adequate with mean  $\pm$  SD is  $20.73 \pm 6.77$  and mean percent knowledge of 47.11%.

**Table -3 (Section – I, Table 12-26 in the study),** shows that the knowledge level of the primigravidae mothers according to aspects of the safe motherhood, was highest (67.40%) in the area of 'antenatal vaccination' with mean and SD of  $3.37 + 1.19$ , followed by 57.75% in the area of 'Pregnancy And Its Complications' with mean and SD of  $6.93 + 3.0$ , 51.57% in the area of 'Antenatal Check-Up' with mean and SD  $3.61 + 1.86$ , 42.00% in the area of 'Antenatal Practices' with mean and SD as  $3.36 + 2.56$ , and lowest (33.92%) in the area of 'Antenatal Diet' with mean and SD as  $4.07 + 3.15$ .

Based on the given findings I can conclude that the primigravidae women had moderately adequate knowledge in the areas of Antenatal Vaccination, Pregnancy and Its Complications and Antenatal Check-Up. The primigravidae mothers included in the study had inadequate knowledge in the areas of Antenatal Practices and Antenatal Diet.

**Table 1. Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables among primigravidae women (N=100)**

S. No	Socio-demographic variable		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age group	Below 20	34	34%
		20 – 25	57	57%
		26 – 30	9	9%
2.	Religion	Hindu	60	60%
		Muslim	30	30%
		Christian	4	4%
		Others	6	6%
3.	Educational Status	Illiterate	18	18%
		Up to Secondary	52	52%
		Senior Secondary	16	16%
		Graduate & Post Graduate	14	14%
		Graduate		
4.	Occupational Status	Housewife (unemployed)	64	64%
		Manual labor	13	13%
		Service	9	9%
		Self-employed	14	14%
5.	Type of Family	Nuclear	20	20%
		Joint	47	47%
		Extended	33	33%
6.	Family Income	3000 -4999	22	22%
		5000 -9999	48	48%
		10000 and above	30	30%



7.	Age at Marriage	Below 18 years 18 - 30 years	11 89	11% 89%
8.	Source of Information	Mass media (T.V., Radio, etc.) Health personal Elders & relatives Others	5 8 85 2	5% 8% 85% 2%
9.	Participation in Health Awareness Campaign	Yes No	0 100	0% 100%
10.	Community	Urban Rural	82 18	82% 18%

**Table 2. Frequency and percentage distribution of the Primigravidae women level of knowledge regarding selected aspects of safe motherhood. (N=100)**

Level of knowledge	Range of scores	Frequency	Percentage
Inadequate	0-22	18	18%
Moderately Adequate	22-34	56	56%
Adequate	35-45	26	26%

**Table 3. Area wise mean, SD and mean percentage of primigravidae women knowledge scores regarding selected aspects of safe motherhood. (N=100)**

Area of knowledge	Maximum score	Mean score	SD	Mean %
Pregnancy And Its Complications	13	6.93	3.00	57.75%
Antenatal Check-Up	7	3.61	1.86	51.57%
Antenatal Vaccination	5	3.37	1.19	67.40%
Antenatal Diet	12	4.07	3.15	33.92%
Antenatal Practices	7	3.36	2.56	42.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>20.73</b>	<b>6.77</b>	<b>47.11%</b>

## DISCUSSION

The hypothesis made in the study was that “there is significant association between the knowledge of Primigravidae women regarding selected aspects of Safe Motherhood and selected demographic variables, at the level of  $P \leq 0.05$ .”

Three assumptions were made in this study. The first one was that the finding of the study will reveal that pregnant women will have moderately adequate knowledge regarding safe motherhood.

The second assumption was that the Educational level of the mother has an impact on her knowledge regarding safe motherhood as proved in

the study. The calculated chi-square value (114.18) is greater than the table value (22.46) with degree of freedom 6 at  $P < 0.001$  level of significance showing that there is a strong significant association between the above.

The third assumption was that knowledge regarding safe motherhood have significant influence on the antenatal practices of the primigravidae mothers which was revealed in the study that association between knowledge of primigravidae mother as the calculated chi-square value (44.17) is greater than the table value (22.46) with degree of freedom 6 at  $P < 0.001$  level of significance.



## CONCLUSION

The finding raised concerns about all aspects of safe motherhood. Present study of primigravidae mothers showed that they had moderately adequate knowledge regarding selected aspects of safe motherhood. The study showed that there was significant association between the level of knowledge and the demographic variables such as age, religion, educational status, occupation, type of family, family income, age at marriage, sources of information and the community of the primigravidae mothers.

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