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RESEARCH ARTICLE

KNOWLEDGE REGARDING CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS AMONG MARRIED WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP

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Abstract

Uncontrolled population growth is recognised as the single most important impediment to national development and birth control is the first important step woman must be taken to keep a check over uncontrolled population. Often family planning is used as synonym for birth control. The main objective of family planning programme is to assist individuals and couples to space and/or limit their children prevent unwanted pregnancy, improve their overall reproductive and child health. Contraception is one of the major components of Reproductive health programme. The use of contraceptive measures constituted the backbone of the programme. Therefore, assessing the current level of the knowledge regarding contraceptive devices among general population is very important so that the further planning can be done for educational teaching programmers to enhance their knowledge.

Aim: This study was conducted to assess knowledge regarding selected contraceptive methods among married women attending gynae opd, Govt. Multi speciality hospital-16, Chandigarh.

Setting and Design: Govt. Multi speciality hospital-16, Chandigarh was the setting for the study. Quantitative research approach and a descriptive research design was used for the study.

Material and Methods: The study was conducted on a sample of 100 married women between the age group of 15-49 yrs of age attending gynae opd, Govt. Multi speciality hospital-16, Chandigarh using simple random sampling. Data was collected using self structured multiple choice questionnaire on contraceptive method usage. The collected data was organized, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Results: The findings of the study revealed that out of 100 married women majority i.e. 54% of the respondents had good level of knowledge and near about 40% had average knowledge. It has been concluded from the present study that respondents have basic knowledge of contraception but detailed knowledge about contraceptive methods was not known to the women. Therefore, the health talk was given to enhance the knowledge of the subjects regarding the topic.

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Introduction:-

Uncontrolled population growth is recognised as the single most important impediment to national development and birth control is the first important step woman must be taken to keep a check over uncontrolled population. Often family planning is used as synonym for birth control. The main objective of family planning programme is to assist individuals and couples to space and/or limit their children prevent unwanted pregnancy, improve their overall reproductive and child health. Contraception is one of the major components of Reproductive health programme. The use of contraceptive measures constituted the backbone of the programme. Therefore, assessing the current level of the knowledge regarding contraceptive devices among general population is very important so that the further planning can be done for educational teaching programmers to enhance their knowledge.

Materials And Methods:-

Research approach & Research design: For the present study, quantitative research approach and descriptive research design was used.

Target population:

The target population of the study included 100 married women between the age group of 15-49 yrs of age attending gynae opd, Govt. Multi speciality Hospital-16, Chandigarh.

Sample and Sampling technique :

100 married women between the age group of 15-49 yrs of age attending gynae opd, Govt. Multi speciality Hospital-16, Chandigarh using simple random sampling. The average number of married women attending gynae O.P.D. of GMSH-16 Chandigarh was 80 per day.

Description of the Research tool

Research tool:

A self structured questionnaire was developed to assess knowledge regarding contraceptive methods among married women of reproductive age. It was constructed after extensive review of literature and consulting with the experts in field of nursing.

Part A :

A socio-demographic sheet which includes age, sex, residential area, family type, parental marital status, religion, educational status of husband and wife, occupation of husband and wife and family income.

Part B :

It consisted of self structured questionnaire to assess knowledge regarding selected contraceptive methods among married women of reproductive age. There were total 30 questions. Each correct item was given a score of 1 and incorrect item was given a score of 0.

Ethical Consideration

Prior to data collection, permission was obtained from the concerned authority of GMSH-16 Chandigarh, department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Principal of School of Nursing, GMSH-16, Chandigarh. The objective and purpose of the study was explained to the subjects. Subjects were given full autonomy to participate or withdraw from research anytime. It was ensured that the information will be kept confidential.

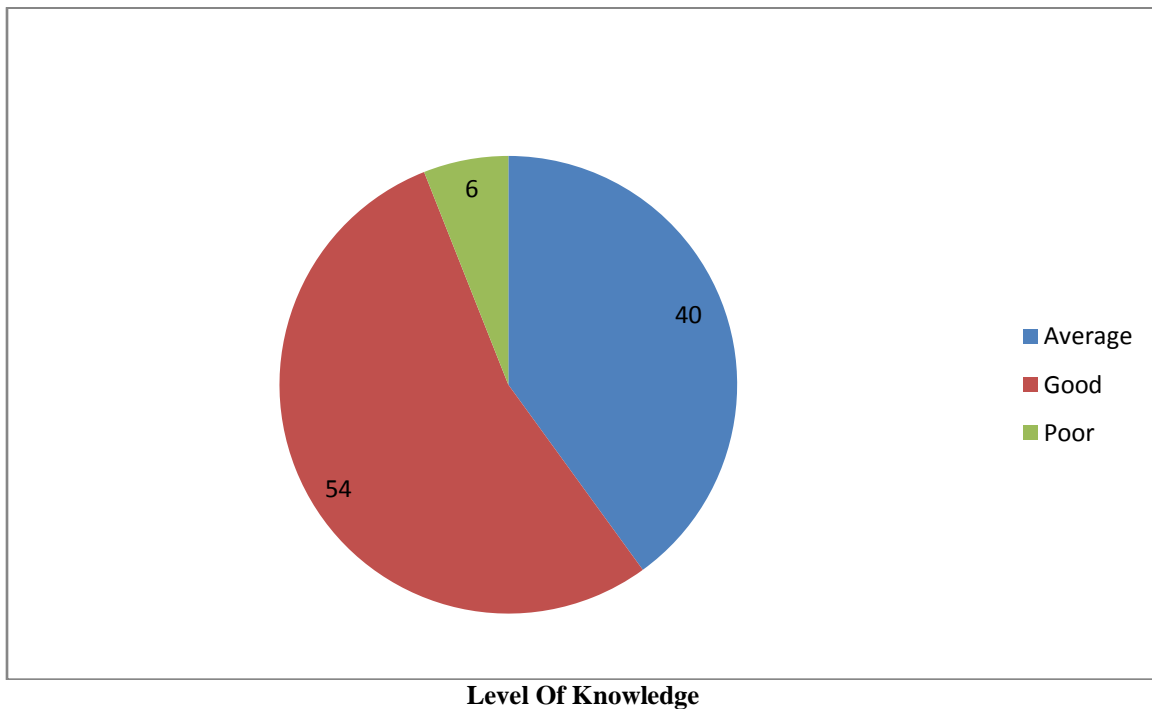
Data collection procedure

Data was collected within one week period by investigators through self report (pen-paper) method. Prior to data collection, written consent was taken. It took an average of 40-45 minutes. Subjects were little reluctant to give information but rapport was established to gain their confidence and information was sorted out with the help of Multiple choice questions.

Major Findings

The present study was conducted on 100 subjects to assess knowledge regarding contraceptive methods among married women of reproductive age. Out of these 100, majority i.e. 54% of the respondents had good level of knowledge and near about 40% had average knowledge. (Fig.1).

There was no significant association of knowledge regarding contraceptive methods among married women of reproductive age group with socio-demographic characteristics. After the completion of study, health education was imparted on various contraceptive methods to further enhance their knowledge.



Discussion:-

The present study revealed that out of 100 subjects, majority i.e. 54% of the respondents had good level of knowledge and near about 40% had average knowledge about contraceptive methods. Another similar study was conducted by Nath J. et al.(2015) consisting of 100 women of reproductive age group that revealed that 95% of them had heard about contraceptive methods. Knowledge of oral contraceptives was known to 75.5%.

Another study conducted by Srivasta.A et al (2013) in urban health training center of tertiary care hospitals showed that 71.22% were aware of at least one of the family planning methods. Best known method of contraception was condom i.e. 88.78%.

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