ASSOCIATION OF PREVALENCE OF DOMESTIC ACCIDENTS AMONG PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH AGE OF CHILD

*Dr. Parminder Kaur

* Tutor/Demonstrator, University Institute of Nursing, Jalalabad, Dist. Fazilka, (Punjab) India.

DOI: http://doi.org/10.47211/idcij.2023.v10i02.001

ABSTRACT

It is a study taken out to assess prevalence of Domestic accidents and its characteristics among Pre-school children in selected Community of Amritsar, Punjab. The objective was to find out association of prevalence of Domestic accidents in pre-school children with age of child. Literature related to prevalence of Domestic accidents in pre-school children was retrieved. A quantitative research approach and a cross-sectional research design was found suitable for the study. The investigator selected a sample of 693 preschool children in selected community of Amritsar, Punjab. Survey technique was used to select a sample of 693 preschool children from the community. All the children were selected as sample in the age group of 3-5 years. List of all preschool children in the age group of 3-5 years was taken from the survey & census register of ANMs of the community. Prevalence was assessed using interview questionnaire. The association of prevalence of Domestic accidents with age of child was found to be statistically significant i.e. Chi-square=13.566 by using statistical calculations. On conclusion, it was found that age of child is associated with prevalence of Domestic accidents in Pre-school children.

Key Words: Association, prevalence, Domestic accidents, pre-school children.

ABOUT AUTHOR:

Author Dr. Parminder Kaur is Tutor/Demonstrator, University Institute of Nursing, Jalalabad, Dist. Fazilka, Punjab, India.
INTRODUCTION
WHO (2008) stated that domestic accidents are worldwide a public health issue. In USA, household accidents constitute almost 20% of all unintentional injuries which is the 5th leading cause of death. Most importantly with the advancement of technology, the incidence of domestic accidents is increasing even in the developing countries. For example, in Shiraz province of Iran domestic accidents increases at a rate of 24.4% increase each year.

Domestic accident is a coincidence that takes place at domestic area or in its instantaneous surroundings, and, more commonly, all injuries no longer are to traffic, motors or game. Every domestic twist of tale brings deleterious physical and intellectual health results to the concerned sufferers and his/her circle of relatives. The sufferer suffers from bodily & intellectual strain, loss of income ability and productiveness. Youngsters in particular are extra susceptible to home injuries. In a few European countries, injuries at house kill more human beings than road accidents, no matter strict protection guidelines and legal measures concerning buildings and residing areas. Park (2009). 2

Latest “contemporary” risks end result from the risky use of harmful chemical compounds, the insufficient disposal of poisonous waste and other environmental hazards, noise and commercial pollutants. Dangerous chemicals in toys and household products might also damage kids. “Emerging” possible environmental threats to fitness include global climate exchange, ozone depletion, contamination with the aid of continual organic pollutants and chemicals and different hazards, and rising illnesses. Kids are often exposed simply not only to one risk factor at a time but to numerous simultaneously. They frequently stay in risky and crowded settlements, in underserved rural regions or in slums, on the rims of cities, which lack admission to basic offering inclusive of water and sanitation, electricity, or heath care. They’re likely to be uncovered to industrial and car pollution in addition to indoor air pollutants and to hazardous chemical compounds. Kids also are probable to be afflicted by unintended injuries (accidents) and poisonings associated with dangerous housing and consumer products. They’re much more likely to be undernourished, inflicting them to be more liable to environmental threats. Chaudhari, Srivastava & Moitra (2009) 3

In today’s world, in the developed as well as the developing countries, danger prevails not only on the roads, but it also exists in the home and playgrounds. Every year, thousands of children die or are permanently disabled as a result of accidental injuries. In many developing countries, injuries are one of the major causes of death in children in the age group of 1-5 years. Many studies have been undertaken in different parts of the world and in India to study the epidemiology of injuries in children under 5 years of age. Most of these studies are hospital-based. This gives only a limited picture of the situation. Nath & Naik (2007). 4

Unintentional injuries are the cause of death and disability for millions of children every year in low-income countries. Challenging living conditions, heavy traffic, a lack of safe play space and an absence of child care options, together with a disproportionate vulnerability to injury, combine to put children at high risk. Inaccessible and unaffordable emergency services add to the number of resulting deaths and impairments. Yet this major public health problem receives relatively little attention. Because communicable disease and nutritional problems continue to rank higher as causes of child mortality and morbidity in most of the developing world, injury is perceived as a less serious problem. Existing research is scanty and is largely limited to hospital-based studies, which cannot present a comprehensive picture of either causes or outcomes. Development of preventive measures is hampered not only by limited health budgets, but by a tendency (not unique to low-income countries) to see injuries as random events, and hence as unpredictable and uncontrollable. There is an urgent need for more research that can contribute to effective analyses of the situation, and especially for locally-based research and record keeping, which is most likely to contribute to awareness and to practical and well-targeted prevention measures. Bartlett SN (2002) 5

MATERIALS AND METHODS
Research Approach
A quantitative research approach was adopted to accomplish the objective of the study to assess the prevalence of domestic accidents among preschool children in selected community of Amritsar, Punjab. A quantitative approach was found appropriate for the study.

Sample and Sampling Technique
The investigator selected a sample of 693 preschool children in selected community of Amritsar, Punjab. Survey technique was used to select a sample of 693 preschool children from the community.
Description and Development of Tool  
The final tool consisted of following two parts: 

**Part 1: Sample Characteristics**  
This part consisted of 10 items for obtaining personal information i.e. age of mother, age of the child, order of child, gender of the child, occupation of mother, occupation of mother, religion, type of house, family income and order of child.  

**Part 2: Interview Questionnaire**  
This part consisted of structured multiple choice questions regarding different aspects of prevalence of domestic accidents in preschool children. This interview questionnaire consisted of 09 multiple choice items.  

**Data Collection Procedure**  
Before data collection, written consent was taken from mothers regarding their participation in study. The purpose of gathering data from them was explained to them and confidentiality was assured. The investigator introduced her to the mothers and the purpose of the study was explained to the mothers before conducting interview. Directions were given to them and they were assured that their responses would be kept confidential. The time taken for data collection from one mother was 30-35 minutes.  

**RESULTS**  

**Objective 1:** To assess prevalence of Domestic accidents among Pre-school children  

**TABLE: 1** Prevalence of Domestic Accidents among preschool children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Prevalence of Domestic Accident</th>
<th>Frequency(n)</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>25.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>74.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 depicts prevalence of domestic accidents among preschool children residing in selected rural community. It shows that domestic accidents were prevalent in 74.9 percent preschool children and absent in 25.1 percent. Hence, it can be concluded that majority of the preschool children encountered domestic accident.

**Figure 1:** Prevalence of Domestic Accidents among preschool children  

**Objective 2**: To ascertain the association of prevalence of domestic accidents with selected socio-demographic variable such as age of the child.  

**TABLE: 2**  

**Association of Prevalence of Domestic Accidents in preschool children with age of child N=519**

| Age of child (in years) | No Prevalence N (%) | Prevalence N (%) | Total N (%) | df | χ²  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>69(34.2%)</td>
<td>133(65.8%)</td>
<td>202(29.1%)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13.566***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>55(19.6%)</td>
<td>226(80.4%)</td>
<td>281(40.5%)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>50(23.8%)</td>
<td>160(76.2%)</td>
<td>210(30.3%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** Significant at p<0.001
Table 2 depicts association of domestic accidents in preschool children with age of the child. It shows that among preschool children who were three years old, domestic accident was prevalent in 65.8% while in preschool children of four years, domestic accidents occurred 80.4% cases. Similarly, 76.2% cases of domestic accidents were found in preschool children of five years of age. Chi-square was computed to find out the association of age of child with prevalence of domestic accident in preschool children which came out to be statistically significant at p<0.001 level.

Figure 2: Percentage distribution of prevalence of Domestic accident among preschool children according to age of child

DISCUSSION

Epidemiological studies about home accidents among preschool children have mainly been based on hospital records than survey methods. Population-based studies on home accidents are uncommon; however, they could provide more information, as they include unreported home accidents. Samreen Khan et al (2019) conducted a Community based cross-section study in the peri-urban areas of Aligarh, India. Mothers/caregivers were interviewed about any domestic accident faced by children under 5 year age, in the last 1 year, through a semi-structured, pilot tested questionnaire. Majority of respondents were in the age group 20-35 years, majority of the children affected were male (35.6%), and in the age group of 3 to <4 years (22.3%). Neghab et al (2000) collected data on home accidents for a 3-year period (2000-2002) were collected from health houses, health centres and hospitals involved in a home accident prevention programme in Shiraz, Islamic Republic of Iran. A total of 15 402 accidents were registered, with a mortality rate of 1.3%. Accidents were more prevalent in children aged under 5 years, followed by 5-9 and 15-19 years of age. Prevalence of domestic accidents was found to be more common in the age group 1-4 years (22%). This may be attributed to the fact that they spend more time in the home. It showed that more than 25% of accidents occurred among children aged less than 4 years.

CONCLUSION

It concludes that age of child is associated with prevalence of Domestic accidents among Pre-school children.

REFERENCES