Knowledge and attitude about Neonatal Jaundice among Nepalese Mothers

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Abstract

Neonatal Jaundice (NNJ) is one of the most common disorder worldwide and still a causes of avoidable brain damage and physical and mental impairment, and probable death in newborns. It is an important contributor to the high neonatal morbidity and mortality in Nepal. The objectives of the study were to assess the knowledge and attitude among mothers about NNJ. A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among 177 mothers in selected village of Kathmandu valley with Interview schedule and convenient sampling technique. The findings of the study show that majority of the respondents 57.10% were in the age group of 26-30 years, almost all of them (98.7%) had at least four antenatal visits; 81.60% were Hindus; 50.60% were educated up to eleven class; and 42.90% were housewives. Findings revealed that around half of the mothers (49.90%) had low level of knowledge (score <50%), 28.60% mothers had moderate level of knowledge (score 50-75%) and only 22% mothers had adequate level of knowledge (score >75%) regarding NNJ. A large proportion of mothers (77.90%) mothers believed that danger sign of NNJ was unable to feed the baby. Majority 76.6% mothers believed that mental retardation was the complication of NNJ; 69.10% mothers were aware about the NNJ, where 34% mothers got the information from the health personnel about it. Few mothers 26.80% mothers were aware about the cause of NNJ. Around 74% believed that exposing the baby to the sunlight is the home management of NNJ but only 25% heard about the phototherapy. Age, educational qualification, and occupation did not show any statistically significant relationship with knowledge about NNJ ($P < 0.05$). Knowledge about NNJ was low in this community. So, the mothers should give proper health education about the NNJ during the antenatal visits and public awareness should be created through different medias.

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Biography

Sharmila Shrestha from Lalitpur, Nepal; PhD graduate in nursing science from Tokyo Metropolitan University, Tokyo, Japan. My dissertation is on women and child health. She is working as Associate Professor in Karnali Academy of Health Science, Jumla, Nepal. She has her expertise academic and clinical side in improving the health and welling. She has around 10 years of teaching and administration experience in different educational institutions and additional have substantial knowledge of research activities and experience in scientific paper publication

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