



ASSESSMENT OF THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE REGARDING MOSQUITO BREEDING CONTROL TECHNIQUE OF A GROUP OF PEOPLE USED IN COMMUNITY SETTING IN ORDER TO PREVENT MALARIA

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ABSTRACT

Malaria is a worldwide problem with transmission in 103 countries affecting more than one billion people causing between 1-3 billion deaths per annum. It was reported about the global incidence in malaria, that the 2.5 billion people at risk, more than 500 million become severely ill with malaria every year. The main aim of the study was to assess the level of knowledge regarding mosquito breeding control among community members. A total of 100 subjects with age group of 18 years and above were selected by convenient sampling technique. Interview and self-structured questionnaire method was used to assess the knowledge regarding mosquito breeding control technique of a group of people used in community setting in order to prevent malaria at selected area in Dehradun. According to the findings majority 55% of the sample had inadequate knowledge regarding mosquito breeding control technique.

KEYWORDS: Mosquito breeding, Control Technique, Assessment, Knowledge & Community

INTRODUCTION:

Mosquito control manages the population of mosquitoes to reduce their damage to human health, economics, and enjoyment, mosquito control is vital public health practices throughout the world and especially in the tropics because mosquitos spread many diseases such as Malaria, Dengue.

When it was founded on July 1st, 1946, the Centre's for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) set out to fight malaria. Malaria control and eradication in the United States occupied a large portion of the CDC's early activities. Since there has been a significant decline in malaria cases in the US, the centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have shifted its focus from elimination to prevention, surveillance, and technical assistance on a domestic and international level. This is still the main objective of CDC's work in this area today.

According to the 2022 edition of the report of WHO, despite the pandemic's effects on prevention, diagnostic, and treatment services, most nations have successfully prevented additional reversals in malaria control. The expected number of malaria-related deaths worldwide in 2021 was 619 000, down from 625 000 in the pandemic's first year. Prior to the pandemic, there had been 568 000 fatalities in 2019. Incidences of malaria grew between 2020 and 2021, although more slowly than they had from 2019 to 2020. The number of malaria cases worldwide increased to 247 million in 2021 from 245 million in 2020 and 232 million in 2019. (WHO)

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study was conducted in Mothorawala area of Dehradun using Quantitative approach with descriptive research design was used in this study. A total of 100 subjects with age group of 18 years and above were selected by convenient sampling technique. Socio-demographics and self-structured questionnaire method was used to assess the knowledge regarding mosquito breeding control technique of a group of people used in community setting in order to prevent malaria at selected area in Dehradun.

RESULT

According to the findings 8(8%) of the samples had adequate knowledge followed by 37% of the samples had moderate knowledge and 55% of the samples had inadequate knowledge regarding mosquito breeding technique.

The computed P value for each demographic variables age, sex, occupation, family monthly income, education and source of income is greater than P value (0.05) indicating that there is no any significant association between knowledge regarding mosquito breeding technique with any demographic variable.

DISCUSSION

According to the results of the current study, just 8% of survey respondents knew about mosquito breeding methods, whilst 55% were not aware of them. Of the 144 responders, almost 71% correctly recognized fever as a cardinal indication of infections spread by mosquitoes. 60.8% (124/204) of the population said they learned about diseases spread by mosquitoes via television. In three different geographic settings—urban, semi-urban, and rural—Al-Dubai et al. conducted a study with 300 people and found that the most common source of knowledge on dengue fever was television in the states of Selangor and Kuala Lumpur.¹²In a similar vein, Sharma et al. conducted a study in Rajasthan with 966 participants. Thirteen Of those surveyed, almost 89% knew about MBDs and 97.16% knew that fever was a common symptom. In a study conducted by Singh et al. with 426 study participants in tribal areas of Bihar and Jharkhand, it was shown that 92.5% of the participants were aware of diseases spread by mosquitoes and that 82.4% believed that fever was the most common symptom of MBDs.

CONCLUSION

Finally, the evaluation undertaken to determine the degree of knowledge among a specific group of people regarding mosquito breeding control strategies for malaria prevention produced useful findings. The findings offer insight on existing awareness, gaps, and possible areas for development in community-based mosquito breeding control strategies.

The study discovered that participants possessed a wide spectrum of expertise, stressing both strengths and weaknesses in their understanding of effective mosquito breeding control measures. While some people demonstrated commendable understanding of preventive techniques such as eliminating stagnant water sources and using mosquito nets, there were significant misconceptions and gaps in knowledge, particularly regarding mosquito lifecycles and the importance of consistent preventive measures.

However, possible limitations of this evaluation, such as sample size and representativeness of the questioned population, must be acknowledged. Future study might concentrate on larger demographic samples and longitudinal studies to determine the long-term efficacy of educational interventions in enhancing knowledge and affecting behavioral changes linked to mosquito breeding control.

In summary, this study emphasizes the critical importance of information distribution and community participation in the fight against malaria. Communities may greatly help to lowering mosquito breeding places and, as a result, the frequency of malaria in their midst by addressing information gaps and establishing a community feeling of responsibility.

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