



PREVALENCE OF ADHD AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN- A PILOT STUDY REPORT

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Abstract : Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a common and complex early-onset neuropsychiatric/developmental and behavioral disorder. The present study aimed to conduct a pilot study to identify the prevalence of ADHD among schoolchildren in selected schools in Cuddalore. The study subjects were selected by convenient sampling technique, among 63 children aged 8-12 years, 12 children identified with ADHD. 66.6% of Children had poor academic performance, and 75% of boys and 25% of girls had learning difficulties. It revealed that at all year levels students with ADHD have significantly lower levels of academic achievement than their peers.

IndexTerms - ADHD, Prevalence of ADHD, Academic performance

I. INTRODUCTION

Worldwide, pre-schoolers, children, teenagers, and even adults are affected by attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), a neuropsychiatric illness. There is a recurring pattern of impulsivity, hyperactivity, or both in ADHD. Such actions are likewise unsuitable for the age group. There are three subtypes of ADHD: inattentive, hyperactive-impulsive, and mixed inattentive/hyperactive-impulsive. Inattention is the most common form. Additionally, it is the condition that affects children's mental health the most commonly. A neuropsychiatric ailment called attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) affects pre-schoolers, teenagers, and even adults globally. There is a recurring pattern of impulsivity, hyperactivity, or both in ADHD. Such actions are likewise unsuitable for the age group. There are three subtypes of ADHD: inattentive, hyperactive-impulsive, and mixed inattentive/hyperactive-impulsive. Inattention is the most common form. Additionally, it is the most prevalent mental health condition.

3.1 Population and Sample

Study was conducted to assess the prevalence of ADHD among children in selected schools. Out of 459 children from 8 primary schools identified 62 children were ADHD aged 8-12 years, who fulfilled the inclusion criteria were selected from 8 primary schools through randomized convenient sampling technique. The teachers were interviewed, for any symptoms of ADHD by ADHD Rating Scale. Vanderbilt Assessment scale is a validated, that obtains information needed for diagnosis from a teacher about core symptoms of ADHD

3.2 Data and Sources of Data

The data collection period was two weeks. Initially, 459 children aged 6- 12 years were selected from 8 Primary schools, Through convenient sampling technique, the children who were willing to participate were selected. The teachers were interviewed initially for any symptoms of ADHD by ADHD Rating Scale. If the score is above 18 out of 54, it is considered as positive and they were screened further to assess the stages. Out of 459 children in 8 primary schools 62 children were diagnosed as have ADHD. By using randomized convenient sampling technique was adopted and the teachers were asked about their children's condition as per Vanderbilt Assessment scale. The tool consists of Section-A Demographic data and Section-B questions related to Vanderbilt ADHD Rating scale. Based on the answers the prevalence ADHD among children includes, Adequate: 25-30 ($\geq 75\%$) Moderately adequate: 15-24 (50-75%) Inadequate: <15 (<50%) regarding prevalence of ADHD among school children

Statistical Analysis:

Descriptive statistical method such as frequency, percentage, was used to assess the prevalence of ADHD and among children and to describe the selected demographical variables

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Convenience sampling method was used for the study. The study was conducted in 8 primary school children. 62 children aged 8-12 years were selected based on the eligibility criteria. The sample were selected by using randomized convenience sampling technique

PLAN FOR DATA ANALYSIS:

Data was collected and entered in master sheet for the statistical analysis. According to the objectives of the study, collected data was analyzed by descriptive statistics that include Frequency & percentage

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Table:1 shows that With age distribution among children with ADHD,17(27.4) were aged 8 years of them were 13(21.0%) were aged 9 years.,11(17.7%) were aged 10 years, (11.3%) were aged 11 years and 14 (22.6%) were aged 12 years

While considering the gender, it was found that 45 (72.6%) of the children were male children and 17 (27.4%) were female children

In regards to religion, most of the children 47(75.8%) were Hindus, 14 (22.6%) were Christians and 1 (1.6%) were Muslims

Regarding informant of children with ADHD, the majority 53(85.5%) were mothers, 9(14.5) were fathers The majority of the children's residence 33(53.2) were residing in urban,19(30.6%) were residing in rural, 10(16.1%) were residing in semi urban

Most of the children the children belong to nuclear family 43(69.4%), 19(30.6%) were in joint family

Majority of children has one sibling 30(48.4%) and 38(61.3%) in group.

In educational status of father most of them 23 (37.1%) had primary level education,10 (16.1%) had secondary education,9(14.5) had higher secondary education,16(25.8) had diploma education In occupation of father, most of their fathers 40 (64.5%) were non-Governmental employee, Only one (1.6%) was a Government employee, 12(19.4%) were daily wages, 9 (14.5%) were self-employees In regard to educational status of the mother most of the mothers 22(35.5%) had secondary education, 3(4.8%) were illiterate,19(30.6%) had primary education,10(16.1%) had higher secondary education 8(12.9%) had completed Diploma In regard to occupation of mother, majority of mothers1(1.6%) were government employee, 26(41.9%) were Non-Governmental employee,10(16.1%) were daily wages 3(4.8%) were self-employee, 22(35.4%) were home manager, 3(4.8) and 30(48.4%).

In regards to previous knowledge on brain gym therapy all 62(100%) had no knowledge on Brain Gym Therapy In living status of the parents 58(93.5%) were living together,1(1.6%) was separated and 3(4.8%) were Widow/widower In regards doing homework 25 (40.3%) were studied self, 28(45.2%) were helped by parents, 2(3.2%) were helped by sibilings,4(6.5%) were studied in tutition,2(3.2) helped by grandparents,1(1.6%) were helped by others.

The above descriptions showed that there was no significant difference in the level of knowledge in prevalence of ADHD among school children...

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