



TO ASSESS THE PREVALENCE OF SYMPTOMS AND KNOWLEDGE ON REPRODUCTIVE TRACT INFECTION AMONG MARRIED WOMEN IN REPRODUCTIVE AGE

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Reproductive tract infection is a global problem including both sexually transmitted infections and non-sexually transmitted infection of reproductive tract. A variety of factors put women at risk of RTIs as well as consequences for women arising from such morbidity. The correct prevalence and knowledge awareness of the problem among the married women is very important. A Study to Assess the Prevalence and Knowledge on Reproductive Tract Infection Among Married Women in Reproductive Age (19-45) years

Materials and Methods:

The study was a descriptive study. The participants were taken from the Gynecological outpatient department with the estimated sample size(100) through purposive sampling method.

CONCLUSIONS:

This study indicates a surprisingly high prevalence of reproductive tract infection among married women 19–49 years old, including a high prevalence of RTIs, urinary

tract infections and uterine prolapse, and of primary infertility among married couples. Women tend to consider many symptoms as normal, do not seek treatment until discomfort is quite high and so apparently remain infected for a long time. This is particularly true for young married women, who usually experience low social status in their husband's household and their community.

INTRODUCTION

ORIGIN OF THE RESEARCH

Reproductive tract infections (RTI) occupy the second position public health problems Among married women in developing countries. The consequences of RTIs are infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, intestinal obstruction, etc Fifty-three percent of women reported gynecologic symptoms, 38% had laboratory findings of RTIs and 14% had clinically diagnosed Reproductive tract infection. Married women in this rural community have a high prevalence of RTI. Education and outreach are needed to reduce the stigma, embarrassment and lack of knowledge related to RTIs. The low social status of women, especially women, appears to be a significant influence on their low rates of treatment for these conditions.

Reproductive tract infection (RTI) is defined as the infection of the reproductive or genital tract which causes healthy life loss among sexually active women of reproductive age in developing countries. Women in the reproductive age group are at risk of RTI during natural events in their life such as menstruation, pregnancy, and childbirth A woman with RTI can represent various symptoms like backache to lower abdominal pain, genital ulcers, vulval itching, inguinal swelling, and abnormal vaginal discharge. RTIs if left untreated can lead to complications like pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), infertility, cervical cancer, chronic pelvic pain, ectopic pregnancy, and pregnancy wastage.

World Health Organization estimates that over 200 million reproductive tract infections occur due to sexually transmitted pathogens each year among women in developing countries, the RTI among women is unexpectedly high. The prevalence of RTI symptom is 78.9%. The fact is that in Nepal still the RTI burden is presumed to be high. Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) is a global health problem including both sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and non-sexually transmitted infections (non-STIs) of the reproductive tract. RTI/STI is an important concern, as it possesses risk for human immunodeficiency virus transmission.

More than 30 different bacteria, viruses and parasites are known to be transmitted through sexual contact, including vaginal, anal and oral sex. Some STIs can also be transmitted from mother-to-child during pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding. Eight pathogens are linked to the greatest incidence of STIs. Of these, 4 are currently curable: syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia and trichomoniasis. The other 4 are incurable viral infections: hepatitis B, herpes simplex virus (HSV), HIV and human papillomavirus (HPV). In addition, emerging outbreaks of new infections that can be acquired by sexual contact such as monkeypox, *Shigella sonnei*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, Ebola and Zika, as well as re-emergence of neglected STIs such as lymphogranuloma venereum. These herald increasing challenges in the provision of adequate services for STIs prevention and control.

Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) represent a significant and widespread health concern many individuals face worldwide. Defined as infections in the reproductive tract, these affecting organisms lead to serious illness if left untreated. The causes of RTIs are numerous - some arise due to bacteria or viruses, while others result from sexually transmitted pathogens.

HYPOTHESIS:

H0: There is no significant association of knowledge and prevalence with selected demographic variables

RESEARCH TOOL:

The questionnaire contained three sections and 35 items.

SECTION I:

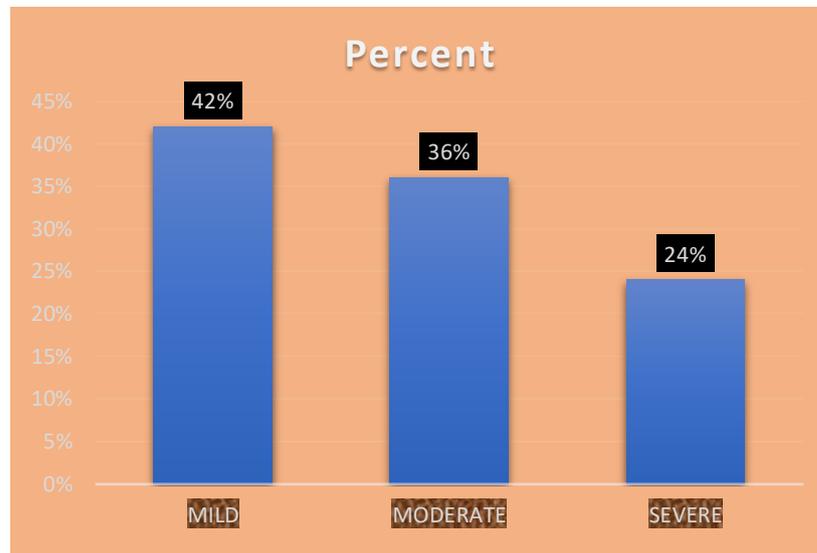
Demographic variables such as age group, education of the women, occupation, type of community of the spouse This will be used to collect the baseline information. And the section 1 part B contains 5 questions

SECTION II:

This section deals with questionnaire to assess the symptoms of reproductive tract infection. It consists of 10 questions related symptoms of reproductive tract infection. the section II contains 12 questions and the part C contains 4 questions.

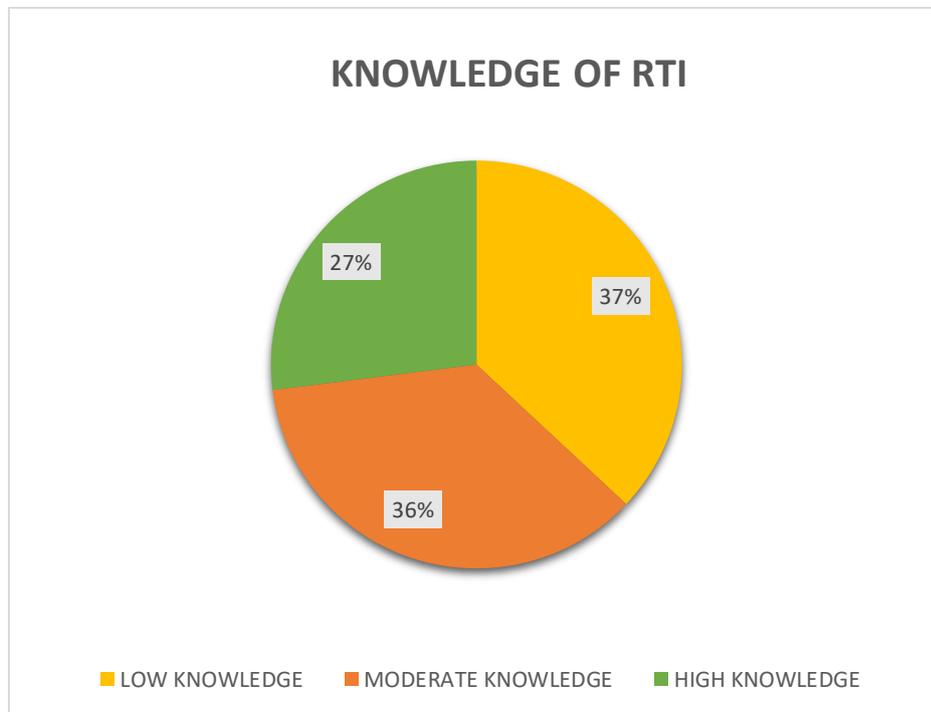
RESULT:

Symptoms	Frequency	Percent
Mild	42	42%
Moderate	36	36%
Severe	24	24%
Total	100	100%

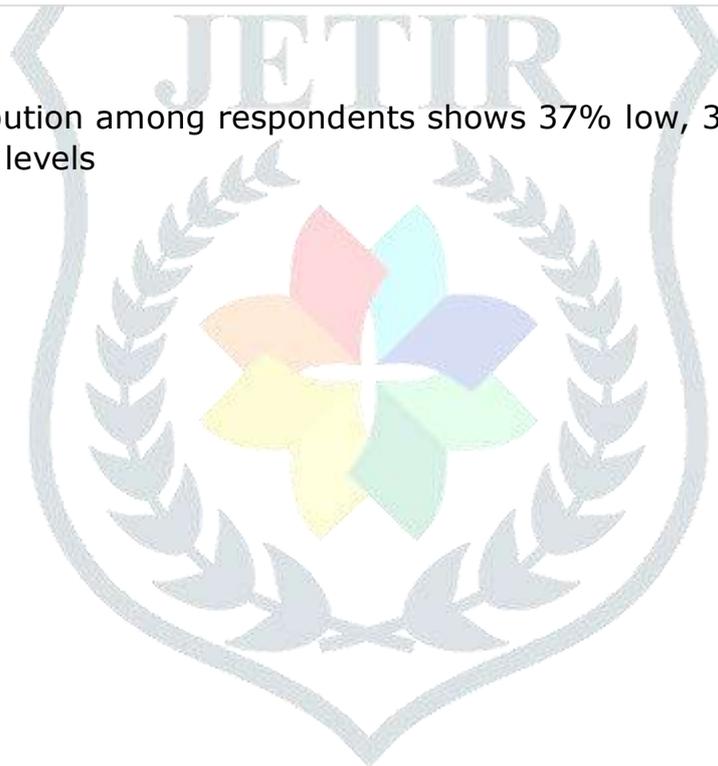


KNOWLEDGE OF RTI

Knowledge	Frequency	Percent
Low knowledge	37	37%
Moderate knowledge	36	36%
High knowledge	27	27%
Total	100	100%



RTI knowledge distribution among respondents shows 37% low, 36% moderate, and 27% high knowledge levels



ASSOCIATION WITH DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLE AND KNOWLEDGE OF RTI

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLE	KNOWLEDGE OF RTI			P VALUES
	LOW KNOWLEDGE	MODERATE KNOWLEDGE	HIGH KNOWLEDGE	
AGE				
19-23YEARS	7	9	9	0.895
24-28YEARS	18	16	11	
29-37YEARS	10	8	5	
38-45YEARS	2	3	2	
EDUCATION				
NO FORMAL EDUCATION	2	2	0	0.501
PRIMARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL	14	20	14	
HIGH SCHOOL	19	13	13	
DIPLOMA AND GRADUATE	2	1	0	
OCCUPATION				
HOUSE WIFE	0	2	1	0.788
DAILY WAGES	17	13	13	
MEDICAL PROFESSION	17	17	12	
IT	3	3	1	
SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS				
UPPER	1	2	1	0.626
UPPER MIDDLE	9	12	8	
LOWER	21	12	13	
LOWER MIDDLE	6	10	5	
COMMUNITY				
URBAN	0	0	0	0.956
RURAL	37	36	27	
GYNECOLOGICAL DATA				
MENARCHEAGE				
9-12	15	17	11	0.956
14-16	20	18	14	
17-19	1	1	1	
ABOVE20	1	0	1	
RTI				
YES	8	10	4	0.469
NO	29	26	23	
STILL BIRTH				
NONE	34	31	23	0.652
ONE OR MORE	3	5	4	
ABORTION				
NO ABORTION	37	36	25	0.063

ONE ABORTION	0	0	2	
TWO ABORTIONS	0	0	0	
THREE AND ABOVE	0	0	0	

knowledge of RTI varies across demographic groups, but statistically significant differences are generally not observed. The highest RTI knowledge is among those aged 24-28, with a high school education, in the medical profession, and in the lower-middle socioeconomic status. Urban and rural communities show no significant difference in RTI knowledge. Overall, the p-values suggest non-significant variations in RTI knowledge based on age, education, occupation, socioeconomic status, and community.

SECTION I

Frequency and percentage distribution, demographic variables of married women.

Findings: The study shows that the age from 19-45years married women represents the high percentage distribution (37%), and majority of occupation are (47%)

SECTION II

Assess the prevalence and Knowledge on among married women at reproductive age regarding BSE based on frequency and percentage.

Findings: Majority of married women (37%) of them had inadequate knowledge, (36) of them had moderate knowledge and (27%) of them had adequate knowledge regarding reproductive tract infection.

SECTION III

Findings: Association between demographic variables and knowledge score were analysed shows that there is no significant association between knowledge and the demographic variable in terms of age($\chi^2=6.661$) marital status ($\chi^2=1.699$), occupation ($\chi^2=0.164$) hence the researcher accepts the null hypothesis.

CONCLUSION

These study aimed to assest the reproductive tract infection among married women in selective village.The results show that there was no significant association between reproductive tract infection.

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