

## ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING FIRST AID MANAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN AMONG SCHOOL TEACHERS

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### Abstract:

Background: Knowledge of first aid, which constitutes lifesaving treatment for injuries or unexpected illness, is important for every individual, especially children. A teacher is the key person who can attend to the children's minor injuries in the school. Having a basic knowledge of first aid management may help school children from serious issues. There are many measures teachers can take to reduce the risks, like wounds, nosebleeds, bee stings, bites, and others. The children are our nation's most precious resource. It is the responsibility of the teacher to safeguard children, hence the present study aims to assess the knowledge regarding first aid management among schools. This study is a Non-experimental descriptive study; a non-probability convenience sampling technique was used. The data were collected by using a self-administered questionnaire to 67 primary and middle school teachers. Results of this study revealed that, among 67 school teachers, 7.5% had inadequate knowledge, 73.1% had moderate knowledge, and 19.4% had adequate knowledge. There is a significant association between background variables such as age, gender, educational status, and monthly income. This study reveals that having a significant level of knowledge of school teachers regarding first aid management for children.

**Key Words:** Assess, Knowledge, First-Aid Management, Children, School Teachers

### Introduction:

Children injuries are growing as a global public health problem. Thousands of children die each year from injuries or violence, and millions suffer the consequences of nonfatal injuries. Especially in schools they are exposed to various types of minor injuries like sports injury, bleeding, fracture, wound etc. Accidents and injuries are major causes for disability and death among children. School age children are very active at home, community and the school. This increased activity and time away from parents, increases the risk for unintentional injuries.

They are at high risk of accidents that decreases their ability to attend school regularly. The death rate in children between 5 to 10 years of age is less than primary school children.<sup>1</sup>

One set of goals of first aid is called the three 'P's;- preserve life- stop the person from dying, prevent further injury- stop the person from being injured even more, if possible an injured person should not be moved and promote recovery- try to help the person heal their injuries. Each year, 20% to 25% of all children sustain an injury and need to seek medical attention or miss school. The future development of children depends on their enjoying good health today<sup>2</sup> Globally, every year 1,50,000 people die in situations where first aid could have given them a chance to live. Even so, fewer than one in 10 people have been trained in first aid. Primary school teachers need to be equipped with first aid training.<sup>3</sup>

Every time a health worker might not be available in school, where accidents can take place at any time. It is required that the school staff should be aware that they can be responsible for looking after the minor injuries or accidents in the schools. Student safety is a major concern for parents and school staff. The first aider is also likely to be trained in dealing with injuries such as cuts, choking, fracture, wound, and bleeding. They may be able to deal with the situation as a whole

### **Objectives of the study**

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding the first-aid management among school teachers.
- To find out the association between knowledge scores of school teachers regarding first aid management with their selected background variables.

**Methodology:** This study used a quantitative, non-experimental descriptive design. This study was conducted with primary school teachers in the rural part of Andhra Pradesh. The samples were primary school teachers with the criteria of who are willing to participate, working there for more than a year, and are available at the time of data collection. The samples were selected by a convenience sampling technique, a non-probability method. In total, 67 primary school teachers participated in this study.

Tools and techniques: The research tool was developed by the investigator with two sections. Section was about demographic variables, and section two about first aid management. Section 2 was prepared with 30 MCQ, a Self-administered questionnaire and the reliability of the scale was  $r = 0.95$ . Scoring and interpretation of the knowledge levels were as follows: below 40% is inadequate, 41 to 70% is moderate knowledge and more than 71% considered as adequate knowledge.

**Results:**

Data were analysed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Below mentioned tables and figures depict the results of the study.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of background variables of school teachers.

n = 67

Background Variables.		Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age	25 - 30 Years	14	20.9
	31 - 35 Years	11	16.4
	36 - 40 Years	17	25.4
	> 41 Years	25	37.3
Gender	Male	40	59.7
	Female	27	40.3
Religion	Hindu	61	91.0
	Muslim	5	7.5
	Christian	1	1.5
	Others	0	.0
Marital Status	Married	58	86.6
	Unmarried	9	13.4

In the samples of 67 regarding age 25 (37.3%) were above 41 years. Regarding gender 49(59.70%) were males and 27(40.3%) were females. Regarding religion majority were Hindus 61(91%). Regarding marital status 58(86.6%) were married, 9(13.4%) were unmarried.

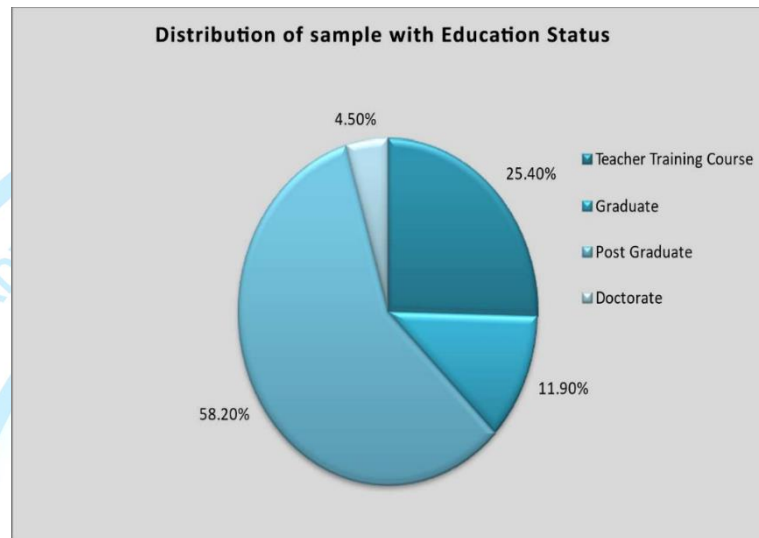


Figure 1: Percentage Distribution According To Education Status.

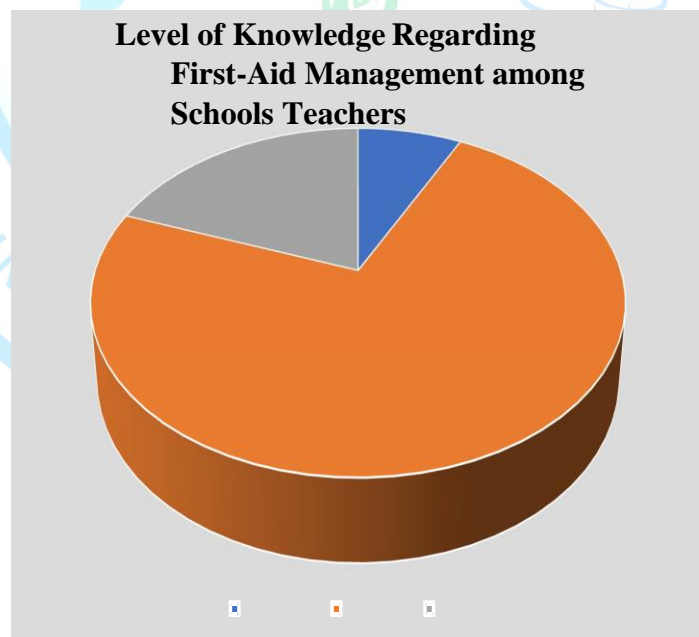


Figure 2: Percentage Disturbution Of Knowledge Scores On First Aid Management.

**Table 3: Item wise analysis of knowledge on first aid management**

S.no	Item	No of questions	Maximum scored	Response average
1.	First- Aid	3	3	47.46
2.	Bleeding	8	8	44.2
3.	Foreign bodies	4	4	44.2
4.	Fractures	5	5	68.66
5.	Fainting, shock, and heat	4	4	50.2
6.	Seizures	4	4	42.17
7.	Bee sting	2	2	57.45

The above table 3 shows that out of 67 samples the average response for first aid was 47.46, for bleeding 44.2, for foreign bodies 44.2, for fractures 68.66, for fainting, shock and heat stroke 50.2, for seizures 42.17 and for bee sting it was 57.45 respectively.

**Table 4: Association of demographic Variables with Level of Knowledge**

Background variables	Chi-square P-value	Df	P-value at 0.05
Age	$\chi^2 = 14.032^*$	6	0.029 (S)
Gender	$\chi^2 = 10.856^*$	2	0.004 (S)
Education Status	$\chi^2 = 16.970^*$	6	0.009 (S)
Monthly Income	$\chi^2 = 16.915^*$	6	0.009 (S)

The above table shows that age, gender, educational status, and monthly income are associated with the level of knowledge regarding first aid management among school teachers.

**Conclusions:** The major findings of the study were that 73.1% had moderate knowledge, which shows that the implementation of the training program will fully equip the school teachers to manage the first aid needs of the school children before the health team arrives.

**Recommendations:** This study recommends conducting further research like an experimental study, with the counselling program based on first aid measures and a comparative study can be done to assess the knowledge between rural and urban school teachers.

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