ABSTRACT

Immunization does more than just protect individual. It protects entire population, preventing the diseases to spread. Immunization is one of the most cost-effective health interventions known to mankind. Immunization is a proven tool for controlling and even eradicating disease. The aim of the present study was to assess and develop information booklet on immunization practices among parents and health personnel from selected urban versus rural areas of Pune district.

The research design adopted for study was cross-sectional & comparative survey design. The samples were parents of under five age children and health personnel involved in immunization of selected areas of Pune. The sample size selected for the study was 800 of parent and 200 health personnel. Probability multistage random sampling technique is used for selecting samples. The setting of the study was 5 Talukas based on 5 subdivisions of Pune district. Content validity was done. Inter-rator and Test retest reliability method was used. Pilot study was done on 80 parents and 20 health personnel. Data collection done after formal permission is obtained from authorities.

The findings of the study are majority fifty five percentages of the rural parents had average knowledge regarding immunization. Majority 44.8% of the urban parents had good knowledge regarding immunization.

More than half (51%) of the rural parents had fully immunized their child, 40.8% of them had partially immunized their child and 8.3% of them had not immunized their child at all. Majority of 61.5% of the urban parents had fully immunized their child, 35.8% of them had partially immunized their child and 2.8% of them had not immunized their child at all.

41% & 45% of health personnel of rural and urban had good knowledge. 35% of the rural health workers had satisfactory practices regarding immunization, 41% of the urban health workers had good practices regarding immunization. Average knowledge score of rural parents was 5.4 which was 6.1 for the urban parents. Corresponding p-
value was found to be very less (p-value=0.000, less than 0.05). The null hypothesis was rejected. The average knowledge score of urban parents was significantly higher than that for rural population.

Average knowledge score of rural health personnel was 28.8 which was 30.5 for the urban health personnel. Corresponding p-value was found to be large (p-value=0.059, greater than 0.05), we fail to reject the null hypothesis. The average knowledge score of urban health personnel though higher than that for rural health personnel population, the difference was not statistically significant.

Average practice score of rural health personnel was 18.4 which was 19 for the urban health personnel. Corresponding p-value was found to be large (p-value=0.195, greater than 0.05), we fail to reject the null hypothesis. The average practices score of urban health personnel though higher than that for rural health personnel population, the difference was not statistically significant.

In urban population, the top three reasons for non-compliance of immunization were unaware of need to return for subsequent doses, Fear of side reaction and financial problem. In rural population, the top three reasons for non-compliance of immunization were unaware of need to return for subsequent doses, unawareness of need for immunization and Mother too busy.

All the demographic variables such as education of mother, parents occupation, monthly income, type of family, no. of children, gender, place of delivery, birth order except for age of the index child were found to have significant association with knowledge of the rural & urban parents regarding immunization. All the demographic variables except for mother’s age were found to have significant association with practices of the rural parents regarding immunization. All the demographic variables except for father’s occupation and age of index child were found to have significant association with practices of the urban parents regarding immunization.

The demographic variables qualification and experience were found to have significant association with knowledge of the rural health personnel regarding immunization. The demographic variables age, qualification and experience were found to have significant association with practices of the urban health personnel regarding immunization. The demographic variables age and experience were found to have
significant association with practices of the rural health personnel regarding immunization.

One of the most cost-effective and easy method for the healthy well-being of child is immunization. Hence there is need to emphasis on awareness of immunization so partial or non-immunization can be converted in to complete immunization.