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RESEARCH ARTICLE

KNOWLEDGE ON EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD)

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EVD: Ebola Virus Disease.

ABSTRACT

A descriptive study was undertaken to assess the knowledge on Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever among adults residing in Makkalur village, Salem. Fifty samples were selected by non probability convenient sampling technique and data was collected with structured knowledge questionnaire using interview method. The demographic characteristics revealed that highest 40% of them belonged to the age group of above 31-40 years, 68% were males, 94% were Hindus, 86% were employed whereas 72% of them had previous source of information from media. The overall mean was 8.0±54.2 which was 32 % of the maximum score shows that they had poor knowledge regarding Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever.

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INTRODUCTION

Ebola virus disease is an infectious disease causing 90 % of death among all infected people. The largest outbreak so far in six countries namely Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigeria, the United States and Mali records more than 14,000 cases including 5,177 deaths till November 2014. It can be transmitted via the animal's blood and body fluids. Once people become infected they can transmit it to others through sweat, urine, vomit, breast milk, feces, saliva and semen. The elevated laboratory findings like leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, transaminase, as well as renal and liver abnormalities are often observed in patients affected with EVD. Ebola virus enters the body through mucus membrane, break in skin or parentally. The pathogen also infects many cell types including monocytes, macrophages, dendrites, endothelial, fibroblasts, hepatocytes, adrenal and epithelial cells. The incubation period of patients with Ebola virus typically have abrupt onsets of symptoms 6-12 days after exposure. The signs and symptoms of patients with Ebola virus disease initially present with non specific influenza like symptoms and can progress to multi organ failure and septic shock.

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Statement of the problem

A descriptive study to assess the knowledge on Ebola virus disease (EVD) among adults residing in a selected village, Salem, Tamilnadu.

Objective of the study

To assess the Knowledge on Ebola virus disease among the adults

Methodology

Descriptive research design using Qualitative evaluative approach among 50 adults residing in Makkalur village, Salem through non probability convenient sampling technique was adopted.

Method of data collection

The necessary data was collected using structured knowledge questionnaire consisting of multiple choice questions on knowledge of Ebola Virus Disease through interview technique.

Plan for data analysis

Collected data was analyzed by using descriptive statistics.

Section: Area wise distribution of Mean, SD and Mean percentage of knowledge scores of the adults regarding Ebola Virus Disease

Table: the area wise and overall Mean, Standard deviation, Mean percentage of knowledge scores of adults regarding Ebola Virus Disease

S. No	Areas of knowledge	Maximum score	(n = 50)		
			Knowledge scores		
			Mean	SD	Mean%
1.	Introduction	5	1.52	10.5	30.4
2.	Period of infectivity	5	1.28	8.8	25.6
3.	Clinical features, diagnosis and treatment	5	1.76	12.1	35.2
4.	Complication	5	1.86	12.8	37.2
5.	Prevention	5	1.58	10.9	31.6
	Overall	25	8.0	54.2	32

Area wise and overall distribution of Mean, SD and Mean percentage of the knowledge scores of adults regarding Ebola virus disease shows that the highest mean score was (1.86±12.8) which is 37.2% for the complications of Ebola virus disease, whereas (1.76±12.1) which is 35.2% for the clinical features, diagnosis and treatment, more or less similar percentage (1.52±10.5 & 1.58±10.9) which is 30.4% & 31.6% for the introduction and prevention of Ebola virus disease and lowest percentage (1.28±8.8) which is 25.6% period of infectivity of Ebola virus disease. The overall mean was 8.0±54.2 which was 32% of the maximum score shows that adults had poor knowledge regarding Ebola virus disease.

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