

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice towards Blood Donation in Sivagangai District

Vimala Devi Vidya G¹, Duraisamy K^{2*}

¹Dr.Vimala Devi vidya, Associate Professor, Blood Bank, Sivagangai Medical College, Sivagangai, India

²Dr.K.Duraisamy, Associate Professor, Blood Bank, Government Royapettah Hospital, Chennai-14, India

*Corresponding author: Duraisamy K

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Abstract

Blood transfusion saves so many lives but there is an imbalance between the supply and demand of blood. The WHO policy is to achieve 100% non remunerated voluntary blood donation practice in 2020¹. It can be improved and achieved by analysing the knowledge, attitude and practice towards blood donation among routine blood donors, paramedical students, medical students and common people in Sivagangai district.

Keywords: Awareness, blood donors, survey.

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INTRODUCTION

Blood transfusion saves so many lives but there is an imbalance between the supply and demand of blood. A survey had conducted about blood donation among 500 people in Sivagangai district. We are in need of increase in voluntary non remunerated blood donors to meet out the demand of blood. The knowledge and awareness were more among medical and para medical students but less with common people. Common people knowledge should improved by conducting campaign about blood donation.

Aim

So aim of the study is to determine the knowledge, attitude and practice towards blood donation among routine blood donors, paramedical students, medical students and common people in Sivagangai district. To find the factors which will improve the number of voluntary blood donors. So the conclusion of the study is to conduct more awareness and motivational programs regarding blood donation among common people to alleviate their fear regarding blood transfusion.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Questionnaire containing various questions about knowledge attitude and practice of blood donation was given to 100 medical students, 100 para medical students, 100 blood donors and 200 common people of Govt. Sivagangai medical college. The structured Questionnaire was adapted. It has four parts. The first of questionnaire was about social demography characteristics of respondents. The second part was

about their knowledge. The third part was about their attitude and fourth part about the practice level of blood donation [1-3].

Knowledge

The score of 1 was given for correct response. Zero for nonresponse or wrong response. Respondents who scored above the mean score were considered as having good knowledge and others were considered as having poor knowledge.

Attitude

The score of 1 was given for correct response. Zero for nonresponse or wrong response. Respondents who scored above the mean score were considered as having favourable attitude and others were considered as having unfavourable attitude.

Practice

It was measured by asking the history of blood donation. A survey had conducted about blood donation among 500 people in Sivagangai district.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Socio demographic characters

Most of the students populations were from 18-25 years and blood donors were from 18-30 years of age with middle class socio economic class. The common people were from 18-60 of age from all socio economic group.

Levels of knowledge of blood donation

The majority of medical students (89.3%) have good knowledge regarding blood donation. Next the paramedical students (68.4%) have good knowledge.

The routine voluntary blood donor have good knowledge (62.2%) while the common people have very less knowledge (30.2%) which has to be improved.

Table-1: Level of knowledge among people in %

Population	% of knowledge
Medical Students	89.3%
Paramedical Students	68.4%
Blood donor	62.2%
Common people	30.2%

Level of attitude on blood donation

About 86.6% of medical students, 82.4% of paramedical student and 78.2% of blood donors have favourable attitude towards blood donation. But among

the common people only 30.4% have favourable attitude .Others have an assumption that they might develop complication from donating blood. This was the major misconception among them.

Table-2: Level of attitude among people in %

Population	% of favorable levels of attitude
Medical students	86.6%
Paramedical students	82.4%
Blood donor	78.2%
Common people	30.4%

Levels of practice of blood donation

Pertaining to blood donation practices 36.2% of medical students, 20.2% of paramedical students donated blood at least one time in their life time respectively. Among blood donors, 100% of them

donated at least once. 24.2% of blood donors become routine donors after one time donation. Among common people only 8% of them donates blood once in their life time.

Table-3: level of practice among people in %

Population	Level of practice
Medical students	36.2%
Paramedical students	20.2%
Blood donors	100%
Common people	8%

But in a study in south India only 10.75% students have donated blood. This is a contrary to our study [5,6], but in Canada 43.8% donates blood [4].

fact is similar to other studies conducted by Sabu KM *et al.* and Bharathwaj RS *et al.* [5,6].

CONCLUSION

There was significant knowledge difference and attitude difference among medical students, paramedical students, blood donors and common people.

The knowledge and attitude were more among medical students, paramedical students and routine blood donors. But they were less with common people. So common people need more awareness programs and motivational programmes to improve the knowledge towards blood donation and making them willing for voluntary blood donation.

But knowledge alone has no significance association with the level of practice among medical and para medical students. With 89.3% of knowledge among medical students only 36.2% were donors. This

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