INTRODUCTION

Today’s child is tomorrow’s citizen. The development of a country can be determined by estimating the health status of children in that country. Children are the major consumers of health care. In India about 35% of total population is children below 15 years. This group considered as special risk group as they are vulnerable to various health problems. Children always need special care to survive. Good health of children has been given prime importance in all countries. Karl Meninger says “What is done to the children, they will do to the society, All citizens – All health workers”. Everyone, even the children have responsibility to involve in health services and act as change agents for health promotion.[1]

The nation’s children are its supreme asset. Their nurture and solitude is the responsibility of the nation.[2] Child health is at the core of India’s development agenda.[3] World Health Organization (WHO) identifies “adolescence is the period, in human growth and development that occurs after childhood and before adulthood, age between 10 to19. It represents one of the critical transitions in the life span and is characterized by a tremendous pace in growth and change that is second only to that of infancy.[4]

Adolescents depend on their families, communities, schools, health services and their workplaces to learn a wide range of important skills that help them to cope with the pressures they face and make the transition from childhood to adulthood successfully. Parents, members of the community, service providers and social institutions have the responsibility of both, to promote adolescent development and adjustment and to intervene effectively when problems arise.[1]

School age children are very active at home, community and school. This increased activity and time away from parents increases the risk for unintentional injuries. The death rate in children between 5 to 10 years is less than younger children. Each year, 20 to 25% of children sustain an injury to seek medical attention or to miss the school. An estimated 2,65,000 deaths occur each year from fire alone, more from scalds, electrical burns and other forms of burns for which global data are not available.[5]

Statement of the problem

A study to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies among high school children in a selected school in Kollam District.

Objectives of The Study

1. To assess the pretest knowledge regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies among high school children.
2. To evaluate the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies among high school children.
3. To find out the association between pretest knowledge scores regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies with selected socio demographic variables.

Hypotheses

All the hypothesis are tested at 0.01 level of significance.

H1: There will be significant improvement in the posttest knowledge regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies among high school children.

H2: There will be significant association between pretest knowledge scores regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies with selected socio demographic variables.
METHODOLOGY

Research approach
Quantitative research approach was adopted for this study.

Research Design
The research design selected for the present study is Pre-experimental one group pretest post-test design.

Setting of the study
In this study setting refers to the Nithya Sahaya Matha girl’s high school in Kottiyam, in Kollam District.

Sample and Sampling technique
Sample of the present study was 120 high school students studying 8th and 9th standard from Nithya Sahaya Matha Girl’s High School Kottiyam in Kollam District. Sampling technique used is Non-probability purposive sampling.

Tool and Techniques
In this study data was collected using the following tool:

Tool I: Structured knowledge questionnaire
Section A: Socio demographic Proforma
Section B: Structured knowledge questionnaire
Techniques: Structured self administered questionnaire

Methods of data collection
For conducting main study prior permission was obtained from the principal of Nithya Sahaya Matha Girl’s High Schoolat Kottiyam in Kollam District. The formal administrative approval from the authorities and ethical clearance from the ethical committee was obtained to conduct the main study.

The purpose of the study was clearly explained and confidentiality of the data was assured to the sample.

A self-developed structured teaching programme was given to the 120 high school children between 13-15 years of age studying 8th and 9th Standard regarding definition, types, causes, signs and symptoms, prevention and first aid management of burns and poisoning. The average time taken was 30 minutes.

Posttest was done after seven days to assess the knowledge level of high school children regarding first aid management of burns and poisoning.

DATA ANALYSIS
The data obtained from 40 sample and they were organized, tabulated, and analyzed based on the objective of the study using descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive analysis was done by using frequency and percentage. Qualitative data were analyzed by using paired ‘t’ test, to find out whether there is any significant difference between the scores of the pretest and posttest signifying the effect of structured teaching programme regarding cord blood banking. Chi-square test was used to find out the association of pretest knowledge scores with selected demographic variables.

Data Analysis
Descriptive Statistics
Descriptive analysis was done by using frequency, percentage distribution, mean and standard deviation.

Inferential statistics
Inferential statistics analyzed by using paired ‘t’ test, to find out whether there is any significant difference between the scores of the pretest and posttest signifying the effect of structured teaching programme regarding first aid management of burns and poisoning. Chi-square test was used to find out the association of pre test level of knowledge with socio demographic variables.

![Figure 1: Percentage distribution of the samples according to their pretest and post test knowledge scores.](image)

Table 1: Effect of structured teaching programme on knowledge of high school children regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies like burns and poisoning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean difference</th>
<th>Paired t</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pretest</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>31.6**</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posttest</td>
<td>28.4</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>120</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISCUSSION

Based on first objective, in pretest 71.7% of the sample had poor knowledge and 28.3% of sample had moderate knowledge regarding first aid management of selected pediatrics emergencies like burns and poisoning before structured teaching programme.

According to second objective, the findings of the study revealed that the mean posttest knowledge score 28.4 is higher than the mean pretest knowledge score 17.6, with a standard deviation 5.4 for the post test and 6.1 for the pretest. The calculated ‘t’ value for the pretest and posttest knowledge score is 31.6 which is greater than the table value at 0.01 level of significance and there is significant difference in the mean posttest knowledge score. Hence, the null hypothesis (H0) is rejected and research hypothesis (H1) is accepted which indicates that the structured teaching programme was effective in improving the knowledge of high school children.

In accordance with third objective, the association between mean pretest knowledge score with selected demographic variables were computed using Chi-square test. The selected demographic variables were age, gender, religion, type of family, area of living, educational status of father, educational status of mother and any previous education. The calculated chi-square values were lesser than the table values. Hence null hypothesis was accepted and research hypothesis was rejected. Findings showed that there was no significant association between the pretest level of knowledge and selected socio demographic variables. Hence it can be concluded that the level of knowledge was not influenced by any of the socio demographic variables.

RESULT

The findings of the study reveal that 58.3% had high knowledge, 34.2% showed moderate knowledge and 7.5% had poor knowledge in the post test. The post test knowledge score ranged from 19 with mean of 28.4 and standard deviation 5.4. The study results demonstrated a significant increase in post test knowledge score with ‘t’ value of (t = 31.6) at 0.01 level of significance. Hence, the structured teaching programme was effective in increasing the knowledge of high school children.

CONCLUSION

This present study on structured teaching programme regarding first aid management of selected paediatric emergencies like burns and poisoning was done to improve the knowledge level of high school children. The nursing students should be encouraged and taught the paediatric emergencies so as they can use the knowledge in nursing practice. Nurse graduates can prepare to meet the continuum of care needs of their patients in a cost effective manner with a focus on preventive and health promotive services. Create awareness in our society regarding the availability of such cost effective measures through public health education programme. Nurses can utilize this method of teaching for imparting information to teachers of school and college for giving health education regarding first aid management of paediatric emergencies like burns and poisoning. Nursing research is a way to identify new knowledge, improve professional education and practice, and use of resources effectively. Nurses are in a key position to improve patient safety, not just through their individual patient care actions as clinicians, through their multiple roles. The study findings emphasized the effectiveness of structured teaching programme in improving the knowledge of high school children.

BIBLIOGRAPHY