

A study on prevalence of vaccine preventable diseases in children of 2-15 years due to fallout from vaccination schedule

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Disease of early childhood preventable by vaccination remains a serious problem in developing countries despite continuous increase in proportion of children receiving vaccines. Often it is noted that parents are quite aware about the vaccination for the first year of life. Later on there is a lot of fallout from second year onwards. Parents in slum areas have more faith in supernatural powers rather than on medical science leading to increase in prevalence of Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs) which are on the verge of elimination in other developed countries. So, the objectives were 1) To assess vaccine coverage, 2) To find prevalence of VPDs and 3) To assess different causes of vaccine fallout.

Method: A cross-sectional study was carried out among 500 children of 2-15 years belonging to slums of west zone of Ahmadabad selected by Simple random sampling using random tables.

Results: Proportion of children who were fully immunized for the vaccines included in National Immunization Program was 86%. Prevalence of VPDs was 7.8% while failure rate for BCG and Measles vaccine was 0.2% and 0.6% respectively. VPDs were more common in families where mothers had studied upto primary level ($p < 0.001$). The main reason for vaccine fallout was unawareness about future vaccination (70%). Other reasons were adverse reactions; forget to give vaccine, etc.

Recommendations: Health care providers should be motivated to create awareness among the general public regarding vaccination and the importance of female education in preventing vaccine fallout. These fallout cases are usually susceptible population, so by improving female education we can decrease occurrence of VPDs.

Biography

Sandeepkumar R. Chauhan is pursuing his postgraduation in Community Medicine. He has published 3 papers, has attended 3 international conferences and several national conferences. He imparted training to MSWs of various NGOs of Gujarat State on Immunization, contraception, ARSH, etc. He is a national Tot holder for IMNCI and has received training on IYCF-counseling specialist from Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India. He has assisted undergraduates on 13 problem solving for better health projects and has 3 years of teaching and field experience. He has received Dr. C. K. Purohit best paper published award for 2012 at state conference.

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