

A Study to Assess the Level of Knowledge on Ill Effects of Mobile Usage among Adolescents in Selected College at Kancheepuram District, Tamilnadu, India

Renuga S¹, Alfred Sam D¹, Dinesh.J, Keerthi.G¹, Parasuraman P¹, Vijay S¹, N.Thivya²

¹B.Sc. (Nursing) IV year Students, ²Assistant Professor, Chettinad College of Nursing, Chettinad Academy of Research and Education, Kelambakkam, Kanchipuram dist. Tamilnadu.

Abstract

Mobile phone is a device used to communicate verbally all over the world who are not near to us, it is common in adolescents. Mobile phone became more and more a tool in our daily life. Therefore a study was done to assess the knowledge on ill effects of mobile usage among students at selected college, Kanchipuram district, Tamilnadu, India. Was undertaken with the objectives: to assess the knowledge on ill effects of mobile usage among students and to associate the knowledge on ill effects of mobile usage with selected demographic variables. Non experimental - Descriptive research study was conducted. The study sample consisted of total 55 adolescents. Data was analyzed by inferential statistics and presented through tables and figures. Findings revealed that Variables like, number of mobile phone is found to be significant. The number of students having moderate knowledge were 28(51%), inadequate knowledge was 20(36%) and adequate knowledge was 7(13%). Mean value 4.8 and standard deviation (SD) 1.6 are as follows.

Key words: Knowledge, attitude, ill effects, prevention

Introduction

Mobile phone is a small, portable communication device that enables people to make phone calls whenever and wherever they are. Signal transmission is the very basic concept for mobile phone. The convenience of mobile phone is allowing people to communicate with one another without the limitation of regions and time. The mobile telecommunication has the source of Radio Frequency radiation that produces energy; heat up the tissues.² During use, mobile phones usually kept close to the ear, which is very near to the brain. It is suspected that continuous use of mobile phone for longer time may damage brain tissues. Mobile phones are more injurious to people's health as compared to smoking. Mobile phones usage and brain cancer are linked to each other.⁴

Various studies indicate that the emission from a cell phone can be extremely harmful, causing tumors, memory loss, and increased blood pressure and weakening the immune system. This is alarming information, and one has to take into account all these factors.

Therefore, the present study is designed to investigate the mobile phones and also to contribute to the increase in social awareness of health problems associated with the use of this device. Problems related to mobile phones are an area which is not explored much by nurse researchers. Hence the researcher felt the need to conduct study among fourth year nursing students about the mobile phones dependence and its harmful effects on health.³

Corresponding Author:

Renuga S, B.Sc. (Nursing), IV year,
Chettinad College of Nursing, Chettinad Academy of
Research and Education,
Kelambakkam, Kanchipuram district, Tamilnadu,
Email ID – renuga326@gmail.com

Materials & Method

The methodology of research indicates the general patterns of organizing the procedure for getting valid and reliable data for investigation. Quantitative, non-experimental - evaluative approach with descriptive

research design was used in this study. The study was conducted at selected colleges Kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu, India. A Simple random sampling was used to select 55 samples. The study was conducted at selected colleges, Kanchipuram District, Tamilnadu.

Description of The Tool:

The tool was organized into 2 sections.

Section A -- Demographic variables:

It consists of demographic data of the students -- Age in years, Gender, Type of family, Monthly income, Number of mobile phone, Type of mobile phone in your home.

Section B -- : Assess the knowledge on ill effects of mobile usage among college students.

Study Findings

- Regarding demographic variables

Majority of the adolescents 38(69%) with in the age group of 14-16Years.

Majority of the adolescents 29(53%) were male.

Majority of the adolescents 26(47%) were extended family.

Majority of the adolescents 24(44%) were having monthly income of 5000 and below.

Majority of the adolescents 26(47%) were using 1 number of mobile phone at home.

Majority of the adolescents 35(63%) were using basic mobile phone at home.

Hence it is stated that there is significant association between the level of knowledge with selected demographic variables of adolescents like number of mobile phones at home on ill effects of mobile usage. With regard to the hypothesis H_2 is accepted.

- Regarding Knowledge level

13% had adequate knowledge, 46 % had moderate knowledge, 33 % had inadequate knowledge. Overall mean and SD of mothers with related to knowledge aspects, From the above discussion, it is seen from the

results that the highest mean score noticed is 4.8.

- Regarding Association: The findings shows that there was significant association between demographic variables (number of mobile phone at home) and there was no significant association between demographic variables (age in years, gender, type of family, monthly income, type of mobile phone in your home on ill effects of mobile usage among adolescents).

Conclusion

The current study provides an update and more inclusive data on Ill effects of mobile usage students in Tamilnadu. A significant variation between male and female students in their ill effects of mobile usage observed. Interventions should consider the gender differences to prevent a Ill effects of mobile usage for college students in Tamilnadu.

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