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## A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding Universal immunization schedule among the mothers residing in selected areas of Panikhaiti, Guwahati, Assam, India

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### Abstract

Immunization becomes an important cost effective weapon for combating child mortality associated with infectious diseases. Immunizing a child significantly reduces cost of treating diseases, thus providing healthy childhood and reduces suffering. Revised immunization is a new immunization that use for the purpose of updating and improving our immune system. Over 2million deaths are delayed through immunization worldwide. Without immunization an average of 2out of every100 children will die from measles, another two from whopping cough, one more will die from tetanus. And out of every 200, 1 will from polio. Children can be protected from other diseases by vaccines. It is there for essential that all parents know why, when, where and how many times their infants should be immunize. According to UNICEF, immunization programs can protect the lives of nearly 4 million children. In 2002, 7out of every 1000 children in industrialize countries died before they are 5. In South Asia, 97 of 1000 children die before they were 5years. And in sub-Saharan African that number is 174 of every 1000 children.

### Objectives of the study

1. To assess the knowledge of mothers having under 5 children regarding Immunization.
2. To find out the association between knowledge with selected demographic variables of mothers of under 5 children.

**Keywords:** Universal immunization schedule

### Introduction

Immunization refer to the induction of an immune response, this response may be manifested through predominantly humoral immunity or both. The Expanded Program of Immunization was the first global initiative of immunization organized under the banner of World Health Organization in 1974 with the focus to immunize children below 5years and pregnant women. The Universal Immunization Program was introduced in 1985 to improve the coverage of immunization within the country. Revised immunization which include changes to recommendation for influenza, Hepatitis A, Tetanus, Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis vaccines.

In 2020 17.1 million infants did not receive an initial dose of DTP vaccine pointing to lack of access to an immunization and other health services and an additional 5.6 million are partially vaccinated. Of the 23 million more than 60% of these children live in 10 countries: Angola, Brazil, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan and the Philippines. Monitoring data at sub national levels is critical to helping countries prioritize and tailor vaccination strategies and operational plans to address immunization gaps and reach every person with life-saving vaccines.

Thus there is an urgent need to find ways to increase vaccination coverage, particularly encourage parents to have their children vaccinated and to increase awareness about the revised immunization

### Material and Methods

In this study Descriptive research design was adopted and the study was conducted in selected village of Thakurkuchi, Chandrapur, sample consists of 40 samples. Selection of

sample was done by using Purposive Sampling Technique. The instrument used for data collection includes 2 tools. Tool 1- Demographic Performa consisted age of the mother, religion, educational status, occupation, monthly income of

the family, age of the child. Tool 2- consisted of structured knowledge questionnaire. The analysis of the data was done by using Descriptive and I

**Table 1:** Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables such as age, religion, educational status, occupation: monthly income, age of child for main study

n=40

Sl. no.	Demographic variables	Frequency (F)	Percentage (%)
1	<b>Age</b>		
a.	18-22 years	23	57.5
b.	23-28 years	15	37.5
c.	29-35 years	2	5
2	<b>Religion</b>		
a.	Hinduism	39	97.5
b.	Islam	1	2.5
c.	Christian	-	-
3.	<b>Educational status</b>		
a.	Primary/Secondary	22	55
b.	b. Graduate	8	20
c.	No formal education	10	25
4.	<b>Occupation</b>		
a.	Government employee	5	12.5
b.	Private employee	4	10
c.	Housewife	31	77.5
5.	<b>Monthly income of the family</b>		
a.	<10,000	28	70
b.	10,000-20,000	12	30
c.	>20,000	-	-
6	<b>Age of the child</b>		
a.	0-1 year	18	45
b.	2-5 years	10	25
c.	>5 years	12	30

**Table 2:** Association between level of knowledge regarding immunization and the selected variables for main study

n=40

Sl. No	Demographic variables	Knowledge Level		x <sup>2</sup>	df	p-value	Inference
		Adequate	Inadequate				
1.	<b>Age of mother</b>						
a.	18-22 years	9	1	22.22	2	5.99	SIG
b.	23-28years	27	-				
c.	29-35years	3	-				
2	<b>Religion</b>						
a.	Hinduism	39	1	1	2	5.99	NS
b.	Islamic	-	-				
c.	Christian	-	-				
3	<b>Educational Status</b>						
a.	Primary or secondary	39	1	2.64	2	5.99	NS
b.	Graduate	-	-				
c.	Illiterate	-	-				
4	<b>Occupation</b>						
a.	Government employ	-	-	25.82	2	5.99	SIG
b.	Private employ	-	-				
c.	Housewife	39	1				
5	<b>Monthly income of the family</b>						
a.	<10,000	12	-	25.78	2	5.99	SIG
b.	10,000-20,000	27	1				
c.	>20,000	-	-				
6	<b>Age of the child</b>						
a.	0-1 years	7	1	92.1	2	5.99	SIG
b.	2-5years	32	-				
c.	>5years	-	-				

## Result and Discussion

In the findings, there is significant association between knowledge of the mothers with the selected demographic variables like age of the mother, occupation, monthly income of the family and age of the child, hence the research hypothesis stated that there will be association of knowledge with demographic variable is accepted. There is a no significant association between knowledge of the mothers with the selected demographic variables like religion and educational status, hence the research hypothesis stated that there will be association of knowledge with demographic variable is rejected.

The findings of the study reveal that 1.97.5% of the mothers of under 5, were having adequate knowledge regarding immunization. 2. 2.5% of the mothers of under 5, were having inadequate knowledge regarding immunization.

Out of the 40 participants, 39 of them had adequate knowledge regarding immunization and one (1) of them had inadequate knowledge regarding immunization. It can be assumed that these participants are having adequate knowledge regarding immunization and vaccine preventable diseases.

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