

**Title:** **STUDY OF CHANGE IN AWARENESS LEVEL OF ANGANWADI WORKERS AFTER RABIES AWARENESS SESSION IN CUTTACK CITY OF ODISHA**

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**Keywords** Anganwadi, Dog Bite, Rabies, First Aid, Vaccines

**Abstract** Anganwadi (AWW) provide MCH care to people. To present study was undertaken to find out the knowledge about the various aspects of the disease rabies in AWW.

## STUDY OF CHANGE IN AWARENESS LEVEL OF ANGANWADI WORKERS AFTER RABIES AWARENESS SESSION IN CUTTACK CITY OF ODISHA.

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### ABSTRACT

Anganwadis [AWW] provide MCH care to people. The present study was undertaken to find out the knowledge about the various aspects of the disease rabies in AWW.

#### Objectives:

1. To study the knowledge about various aspects of rabies of AWW in Cuttack city.
2. The change in knowledge status was observed after giving a rabies awareness session to AWWs.

#### Material & Methods

A set of questionnaires was prepared and administered to the AWW and their written response was obtained. After taking the 1<sup>st</sup> set of response they were given information about various aspects of rabies and its prevention in a brief rabies awareness session. After 1 month again a 2<sup>nd</sup> response was obtained from the AWWs in the same set of questionnaire. Then the second response was obtained.

#### Study subject

A total of 148 number of AWWs were administered the questionnaire and response obtained. After the rabies awareness session only 118 responses could be obtained in the complete format, and these 118 study subject were taken for analysis. The time period of the study July 2014 to August 2014. Statistical analysis- percentage.

#### Observation and Discussion:

98% of respondents were aware of the disease Rabies before the awareness session which increased to 100% after the awareness session. The disease was caused by a virus was known to 32% of AWWs which increased to 56% after the awareness session. 92% of AWWs knew rabies is a fatal disease before the awareness session which increased to 100% after the session. 91% of the AWWs were aware of the fact that rabies is transmitted by biting by rabid dogs before the awareness session and it increased to 100% after the session. Cat was opined to be culprit animal in 21% of respondents which increased to 80% post session. The knowledge regarding treatment of bite wound with washing only and washing with soap and water increased to 100% and 82% from 70% and 42% respectively. All the AWWs knew about the requirements of vaccine in case of animal bites but the knowledge of complete dose of 5 injections to be taken was known to only 8% which increased to 62% after the session.

**Conclusion:** AWWs play a pivotal role in our community as they are the grass root level workers. Their proper and adequate knowledge about rabies and its prevention will help in increase in the perception of the community about rabies and its prevention.

**Key words-** Anganwadi, Dog Bite, Rabies, First Aid, Vaccines.

### INTRODUCTION

Rabies is a vaccine preventable viral disease which occurs in more than 150 countries<sup>1</sup> of the world. Human mortality from endemic cases of

rabies was estimated to be 20,000 and total case burden of the world being 55,000 per year<sup>2</sup> of which major contributors are Asia and Africa. More than 99% of all human deaths occur in the developing world<sup>3</sup>.

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Table 1

Age distribution of AWWs			
Sl. No.	Age Range	Number	Percentage
1.	21-30	20	16.9
2.	31-40	31	26.3
3.	41-50	51	43.2
4.	>50	16	13.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>118</b>	<b>100</b>
Education qualification of AWWs			
Sl. No.	Educational Qualification	Number	Percentage
1.	Under Matric	6	5.1
2.	10 <sup>th</sup> Pass	49	41.5
3.	Higher Secondary	23	19.5
4.	Graduation and above	40	33.9
<b>Total</b>		<b>118</b>	<b>100</b>
Job experience of AWWs in years			
Sl. No.	Job Experience (in years)	Number	Percentage
1.	1-5 yrs	26	22
2.	6-10 yrs	17	14.4
3.	11-15 Yrs	21	17.8
4.	16-20 yrs.	9	7.6
5.	21-25 yrs.	33	28
6.	>25 yrs.	12	10.2
<b>Total</b>		<b>118</b>	<b>100</b>

Anganwadis are established in our country since long. They provide MCH care to people very sincerely. AWW are the grass root workers in our health service delivery system. They are most close to people and their advice is respected and accepted by the community they serve.

The present study was undertaken to find out the knowledge about the various aspects of the disease rabies of AWW.

#### OBJECTIVES:

- To study the knowledge about various aspects of rabies of AWW in Cuttack city.
- The change in knowledge status was observed after giving a rabies awareness session to AWWs.

#### MATERIAL & METHODS

A set of questionnaires was prepared and administered to the AWW and their written responses were obtained. 148 AWWs were contacted and the questionnaires were administered and responses were recorded. After

Table 2  
Change in knowledge and attitude after attending rabies awareness session (n=118)

Sl. No.		Pre-session	Percentage	Post-session	Percentage
1.	Know about rabies	116	98.3	118	100
2.	Rabies is caused by virus	32	27.1	56	47.5
3.	Rabies is a fatal disease	109	92.4	118	100
Animal responsible for rabies transmission					
1.	Dog	107	90.7	118	100
2.	Cat	25	21.2	94	79.7
3.	Monkey & other wild animals	9	7.6	76	64.4
4.	Scorpion	1	0.8	0	0
5.	Snake	2	1.7	0	0
6.	DNK	2	1.7	0	0
Symptoms of rabies in humans					
1.	Hydrophobia	79	66.9	110	93.2
2.	Fits/Epilepsy	45	38.1	96	81.4
3.	Animals like behaviour	87	73.7	43	36.4
Treatment of bite wound					
1.	Wash with water	82	69.5	118	100
2.	Wash with soap and water	49	41.5	97	82.2
3.	Application of Antiseptics	14	11.9	86	72.9
4.	Application of turmeric and bitter gourd juice	34	28.8	12	10.2
Vaccination and prevention of transmission					
1.	Vaccine is required for exposed person	118	100	118	100
2.	Vaccine scheduled has 5 injections	9	7.6	73	61.9
3.	Animal should be vaccinated	84	71.2	109	92.4

taking the 1<sup>st</sup> set of response they were given information about various aspects of rabies and its prevention in a brief rabies awareness session. After 1 month again a 2<sup>nd</sup> response was obtained from the AWWs in the same set of questionnaire. Then the second response was obtained.

#### STUDY SUBJECT

A total of 148 number of AWWs were administered the questionnaire and response obtained. After the rabies awareness session only 118 responses could be obtained in the complete format, and these 118 study subject were taken for analysis. The time period of the study July 2014 to August 2014. Statistical analysis- percentage.

#### OBSERVATION AND DISCUSSION:

98% of respondents were aware of the disease entity rabies before the awareness session which increased to 100% after the awareness session. The disease was caused by a virus was known to 32% of AWWs which increase to 56% after the awareness



session. 92% of AWWs knew rabies is a fatal disease before the awareness session which increase to 100% after the session.

98% of all the AWWs knew about the disease entity rabies which increased to 100% after the awareness session. It was caused by a virus was known only to 27% which was increased to 48%. That rabies is a fatal disease was known to 92% of the AWWs which increase to 100% after the session. Rabies was transmitted by bites of the dogs was known to all the AWWs before the awareness session.

91% of the AWWs were aware of the fact that rabies is transmitted by being bitten by rabid dogs before the awareness session and it increase to 100% after the session. Cat was opined to be culprit animal in 21% of respondents which increased to 80% post session.

93% of AWWs became aware of the symptom hydrophobia after the session which was 67% pre session. The perception that a rabies patient behaves like an animal decreased from 74% to 36% after the session.

The knowledge regarding treatment of bite wound with washing only and washing with soap and water increased to 100% and 82% from 70% and 42% respectively. These findings are in

agreement with a study conducted by Vinay M et. al. in Maddur town of Karnataka State<sup>4</sup>. The opinion about application of turmeric and bitter gourd juice from 29% to 10% was seen after the session.

All the AWWs knew about the requirements of vaccine in case of animal bite victims but the knowledge of complete dose of 5 injections to be taken was known to only 8% which increased to 62% after the session and 92% opined about the vaccination of the pet animals after the session.

AWWs play a pivotal role in our community as they are the grass root level workers. They along with their helpers are the grass root level workers, and act as an integral part of health care delivery system. They are very close to the people and their advice is respected and accepted by the community they serve. So their proper and adequate knowledge about rabies and its prevention will help in increase in the perception of the community about rabies and its prevention.

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