

A Study to Assess the Knowledge Towards Alcoholism Among the Adolescents in Selected Schools of Guwahati, Assam

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Abstract— Alcohol abuse is a major health problem in India and world at-large. The problem of alcoholism until a few decades was considered a moral problem and a sign of social irresponsibility. The major concern is that alcohol consumption is associated with certain other behavior and long range consequences. Taking alcohol even once in a while leaves the possibility of a habit-forming phenomenon open and the drinker may start drinking frequently and in large quantity, which could have drastic effects on one's health. For present study, to assess the knowledge towards alcoholism among the adolescents a total of 140 participants were selected from Class 7-10 using convenient sampling method. The data collection tool includes knowledge questionnaire towards alcoholism. The results findings of the study shows that majority (64.2%) have moderate knowledge towards alcoholism, (19.2%) have inadequate knowledge and (16.4%) have adequate knowledge. The study revealed that maximum adolescents have moderate knowledge towards alcoholism.

Keywords: Assess, Alcoholism, Adolescents, Knowledge

I. INTRODUCTION

Alcohol abuse is a major health problem in India and world at large. For the past thirty to forty years alcohol consumption has increased tremendously. The problem of alcoholism until a few decades was considered a moral problem and a sign of social irresponsibility. The major concern is that alcohol consumption is associated with certain other behavior and long-range consequences. Taking alcohol even once in a while leaves the possibility of a habit-forming phenomenon open and the drinker may start drinking frequently and in large quantity, which could have drastic effects on one's health. According to the study of world wide states that globally around 1.4 percent (107 million) of the population have an alcohol use disorder. It has been a major health problem for many decades. It is

estimated that around 3.3 million people died because of alcohol consumption.⁸

According to the study of India states that 1.2 billion people live in India, and a large percentage of the population engages in regular alcohol consumption. An estimated 25% of India men suffer from alcohol dependence, making it a serious public health concern.

According to the study of Assam states that 8.8% of the state population which is 27 lakh people have an alcohol use disorder. According to the Health and welfare Ministry statistics, Assam men and women have been ranked highest in terms of alcohol consumption in India. Assam not only topped the male but also in female as a new govt of India reports that one out of four women of Assam are regular drinkers.

The purpose of the study is to assess the knowledge towards alcoholism among the adolescents who are studying in class 7-10 in a selected school, Guwahati, Assam.

II. OBJECTIVE

- To assess the knowledge regarding alcoholism among the adolescents in selected Schools of Guwahati, Assam.
- To find out the association between knowledge regarding alcoholism with the selected socio-demographic variables among adolescents of selected Schools of Guwahati, Assam.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research approach: Quantitative research approach

Research design: Descriptive research design

Setting: The study was conducted at Don Bosco School and Bethany School Guwahati, Assam.

Population: For this study the population was adolescent students studying in class 7,8,9and 10 standard in Don Bosco School and Bethany School Guwahati, Assam

Sample size: The sample size selected for the study is 140 students

Sampling technique: For this research study the convenient sampling technique was used.

Criteria for sampling selection

Inclusion criteria:

- Adolescents who are willing to participate.

Exclusion criteria

- Adolescents who are not available during the period of the study

Variables under the study:

Research variable: Self – Structured knowledge questionnaire towards alcoholism

Socio demographic variables:

It includes Age, Gender, Education qualification, religion, type of family, father's educational level, availability of alcohol nearby home, presence of alcoholic family.

Tool and technique:

Section I: Demographic data

Section II. Self – Structured knowledge questionnaire towards alcoholism

SECTION C: ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING ALCOHOLISM AMONG ADOLESCENTS WITH SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES.

Table 2: Association between level of knowledge with selected demographic variables.

N= 140

Age	Adequate	Moderately adequate	Inadequate	Chi square (calculated)	df	P value
12-13yrs	28	13	2	4.81	6	0.193
14-15yrs	2	2	12			
16-17yrs	16	34	10			
18-19yrs	13	0	8			
Education level						
Class 7	0	2	12	9.35	6	0.12
Class 8	5	10	15			
Class 9	28	8	20			
Class 10	2	48	0			
Religion						
Hinduism	40	20	10	28.56	6	0.0001
Christianity	8	10	20			
Islam	18	5	5			
Sikh & Buddhist	4	0	0			
Gender						
Male	30	20	4	1.245	2	0.26
Female	40	40	6			

IV. RESULTS

SECTION A: Frequency and percentage distribution of subject's characteristics

The study reveal that majority 56% students were under the age group 18-19years and majority 61.4% are female. Out of 140 students majority 48.5% students were under class 10. Majority 61% of the adolescents are Christian, majority 50% of the adolescents comes under nuclear family, majority34.2% of their father's educational level is undergraduate, majority 70% of the adolescents have the availability of alcohol nearby home, majority 64.2% of the adolescents have the presence of alcoholic family.

SECTION -B Section B: Knowledge towards alcoholism among the adolescents.

Table 1: Mean Standard deviation, frequency and percentage distribution of adolescents according to their grading of Knowledge score.

N=140

Knowledge	Frequency	%	Mean	SD
Adequate	27	16.4	6.52	2.74
Moderately adequate	90	64.2		
Inadequate	23	19.2		

Table 1 shows that out of 140 adolescent's majority (64.2%) have moderate knowledge towards alcoholism, (19.2%) have Inadequate knowledge and (16.4%) have adequate knowledge.

Types of family						
Nuclear family	40	20	10	28.56	6	0.0001
Joint family	8	10	20			
Extended family	18	5	5			
Single parent	4	0	0			
Father's educational level						
Illiterate	0	10	32	5.54	6	1.26
Under graduate	8	26	14			
Graduate	8	20	0			
Post graduate	12	8	2			
Availability of alcohol						
Yes	60	20	18	4.415	2	2.34
No	1	22	19			
Presence of alcoholic family						
Yes	14	32	4	13.72	6	0.0001
No	36	30	24			

Table 2 shows that obtained chi-square value for the knowledge of adolescents with religion was 28.56 (tabulated value 12.59) at $df = 6$ and p value = .00001, types of family was 28.56 (tabulated value 12.59) at $df=6$ and p value = 0.0001, the presence of alcoholic family was 13.72 (tabulated value 5.99) at $df = 6$ and p value=0.0001. Hence significant association was found between the level of knowledge with some selected demographic variables like religion, types of family and presence of alcoholic family.

V. CONCLUSION

Finding showed that majority (64.2%) have moderate knowledge towards alcoholism, (19.2%)

have Inadequate knowledge and (16.4%) have adequate knowledge. There is no significant association between knowledge and selected demographic variables like

age ($x^2=4.81$, $p=>0.193$), Educational level ($x^2=9.35$, $p=>0.12$), gender ($x^2=1.245$, $p=>0.26$),

father's educational level ($x^2=5.54$, $p=>1.26$), alcohol nearby home ($x^2=4.415$, $p=2.34$).

Whereas there is significant association between religion ($x^2=28.56$, $p=>0.0001$), type of

family ($x^2=28.56$, $p=>0.0001$), alcoholic family ($x^2=13.72$, $p=0.0001$).

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