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A Study To Assess The Knowledge, Attitude And Practice Regarding Eye Care For Patients With Conjunctivitis In Selected Hospital, Puducherry

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ABSTRACT:

Introduction: Conjunctivitis is a common eye redness caused by inflammation or infection of the conjunctiva, affecting people of any age, demographic, or socioeconomic status. Conjunctivitis is easily treatable and usually benign and self-limiting. Symptom duration varies depending on the type, with viral conjunctivitis typically increasing in severity until day 4 or 5 and resolving within 1 to 2 weeks. **Objectives of the study**: The main objective of the study to the level of knowledge, attitude and practice regarding eye care for patients with conjunctivitis. **Methodology:** A quantitative research approach and descriptive design was selected for the present study. The present study was conducted at Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital. The sample size consists of 30 patients with conjunctivitis in SMVMCH, Puducherry. Using a convenient sampling technique the samples were selected for the present study. **Results:** the present study reveals that, majority 18 (60%) of them had inadequate knowledge, 8 (26.7%) of them had moderate knowledge and 4 (13.3%) of them had adequate knowledge. Regarding attitude the finding shows that, majority 30 (100%) of them had positive attitude regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis. In aspect of practice, majority 15 (50%) of them had good adherence and 15 (50%) of them had moderate adherence regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis. **Conclusion:** The study findings concluded that majority of the patients had inadequate knowledge and had positive attitude and had good adherence among patients with conjunctivitis.

Keywords: Conjunctivitis, Knowledge, Attitude, Practice

INTRODUCTION:

Conjunctivitis is a common eye redness caused by inflammation or infection of the conjunctiva, affecting people of any age, demographic, or socioeconomic status. It is the most common presentation in primary care and emergency departments, putting a significant strain on the healthcare system. The etiology

of conjunctivitis can be infectious or non-infectious. The commonest cause is viral conjunctivitis, followed by bacterial conjunctivitis, and among non-infectious etiologies, allergic and toxin-induced conjunctivitis are the most common.

The prevalence of conjunctivitis varies by age, sex, and time of year. The highest rates of diagnosis are among children less than seven years of age, with the highest incidence occurring between the ages of 0 and 4 years. The second peak of distribution occurs at the ages of 22 years in women and 28 years in men. Seasonal allergic conjunctivitis and perennial allergic conjunctivitis are considered the most prevalent allergic ocular diseases, affecting 15–20% of the population.

Bacterial conjunctivitis is far more common in children than adults, with pathogens varying depending on the age group. The primary defense mechanism against infection is the epithelial covering of the conjunctiva, while secondary defense mechanisms include immune reactions carried out by the tear film immunoglobulins and lysozyme, conjunctival vasculature, and the rinsing action of blinking and lacrimation.

A history and physical examination are essential in diagnosing and treating conjunctivitis, including timing of onset, prodromal symptoms, unilateral or bilateral eye involvement, associated symptoms, previous treatment and response, past episodes, type of discharge, the presence of pain, itching, eyelid characteristics, periorbital involvement, vision changes, photophobia, and corneal opacity. Imaging studies do not play an important role in the workup of conjunctivitis unless an underlying pathology is suspected.

Conjunctivitis is easily treatable and usually benign and self-limiting. Symptom duration varies depending on the type, with viral conjunctivitis typically increasing in severity until day 4 or 5 and resolving within 1 to 2 weeks.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Viral conjunctivitis has an incidence of 80,000 per 100,000 cases with acute conjunctivitis, while bacterial conjunctivitis in the US is estimated to be 135 cases per 10,000 population annually. In India, the incidence of bacterial conjunctivitis is 135 out of 10,000, with allergic conjunctivitis present in 30-71% of patients. Allergic conjunctivitis is prevalent in 6%-30% of the general population and up to 30% in children alone.

In Tamil Nadu, eye infections are estimated to be around 4,000-4,500 daily, with 90% of cases due to adenovirus infection. Adenoviruses are responsible for 65 to 90% of cases of viral conjunctivitis, with the highest incidence occurring between ages 0 and 4 years. In Puducherry, the most common cause of red eye in adults and children is conjunctivitis, followed by foreign bodies and trauma. Infective conjunctivitis is more common in adults (70%), while allergic conjunctivitis is more common among children (59%)

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice regarding eye care for patients with conjunctivitis in a selected hospital, Puducherry

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the level of knowledge, attitude and practice regarding eye care for patients with conjunctivitis
2. To associate the level of knowledge regarding eye care among conjunctivitis patients with their selected demographic variables.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

A quantitative research approach and descriptive design was selected for the present study. The present study was conducted at Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and Hospital. The study population comprised of all the patient with conjunctivitis. The sample of the study consists patient with conjunctivitis in a selected hospital Puducherry, who meet the inclusion criteria. The sample size consists of 30 patients with conjunctivitis in SMVMCH, Puducherry. Using a convenient sampling technique the samples were selected for the present study. The tool consists of demographic data, knowledge questionnaire. The outcome of the study was evaluated by using descriptive and inferential statistics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study was conducted study to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice regarding eye care for patients with conjunctivitis in a selected hospital, Puducherry. In aspect of knowledge the present study reveals that, majority 18 (60%) of them had inadequate knowledge, 8 (26.7%) of them had moderate knowledge and 4 (13.3%) of them had adequate knowledge.

Regarding attitude the finding shows that, majority 30 (100%) of them had positive attitude regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis.

In aspect of practice, majority 15 (50%) of them had good adherence and 15 (50%) of them had moderate adherence regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis.

The study shows that there is significance association between area of residence and past history of conjunctivitis with level of knowledge regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis where $p<0.05$.

There is no significance association between age, education status, , occupation, religion, income per month, area of residence, family history of conjunctivitis, usage of contact lenses or spectacles and currently under drug regimen.

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage wise distribution of the level of knowledge regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis. **N = 30**

S.NO	LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE	FREQUENCY (n)	PERCENTAGE %
1.	Adequate	4	13.3%
2.	Moderate	8	26.7%
3.	Inadequate	18	60%

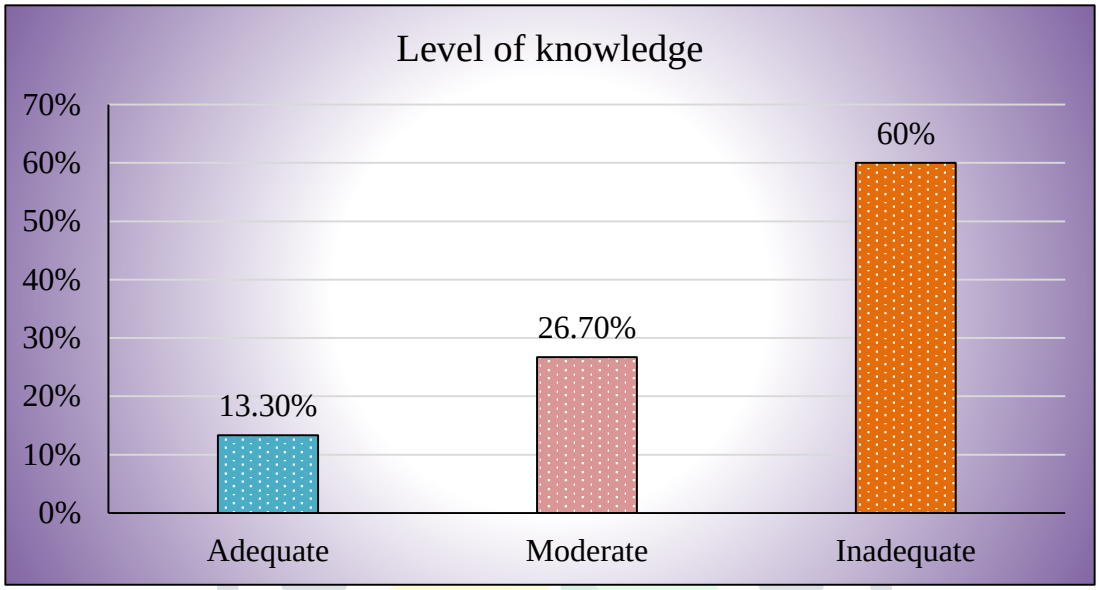

Figure 1: Percentage wise distribution of level of knowledge regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage wise Distribution of the level of attitude regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis **N = 30**

S.NO	LEVEL OF ATTITUDE	FREQUENCY (n)	PERCENTAGE %
1.	Negative	0	0%
2.	Positive	30	100%

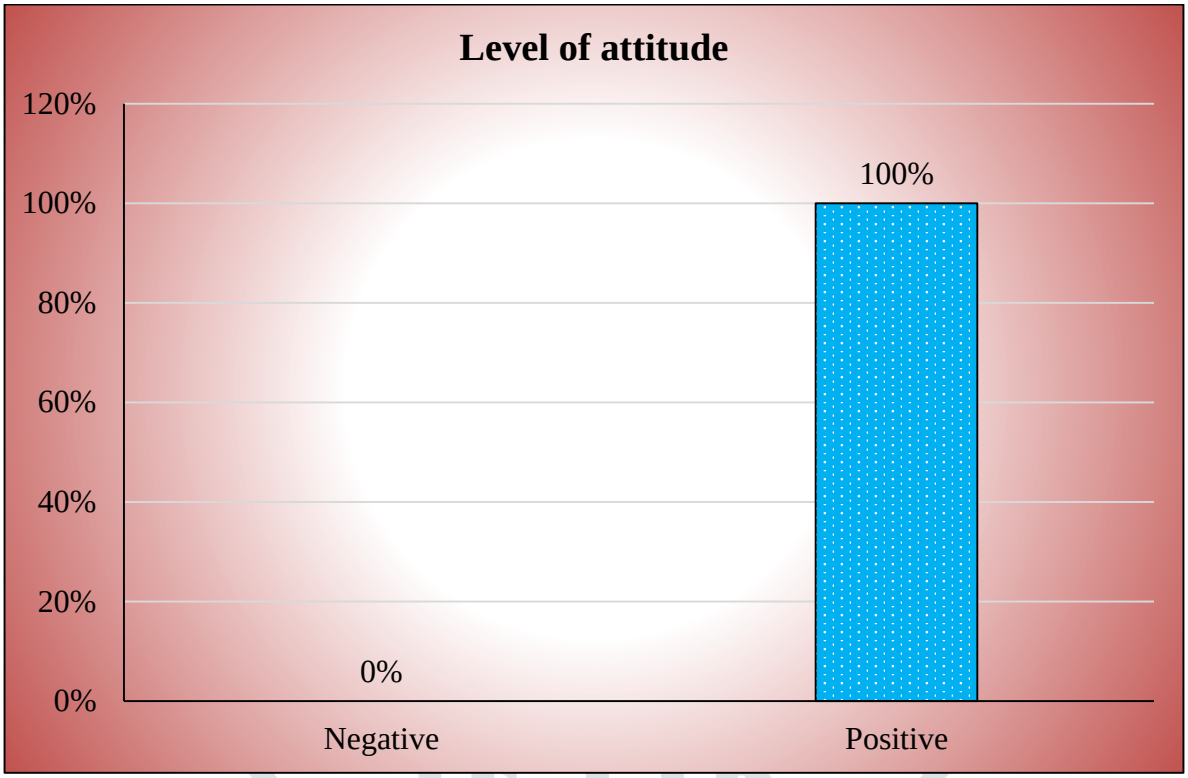

Figure 2: Percentage wise distribution of level of attitude regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis

Table 3: Frequency and Percentage wise Distribution of the level of practice regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis. **N = 30**

S.NO	LEVEL OF PRACTICE	FREQUENCY (n)	PERCENTAGE %
1.	Low Adherence	0	0%
2.	Moderate Adherence	15	50%
3.	Good Adherence	15	50%

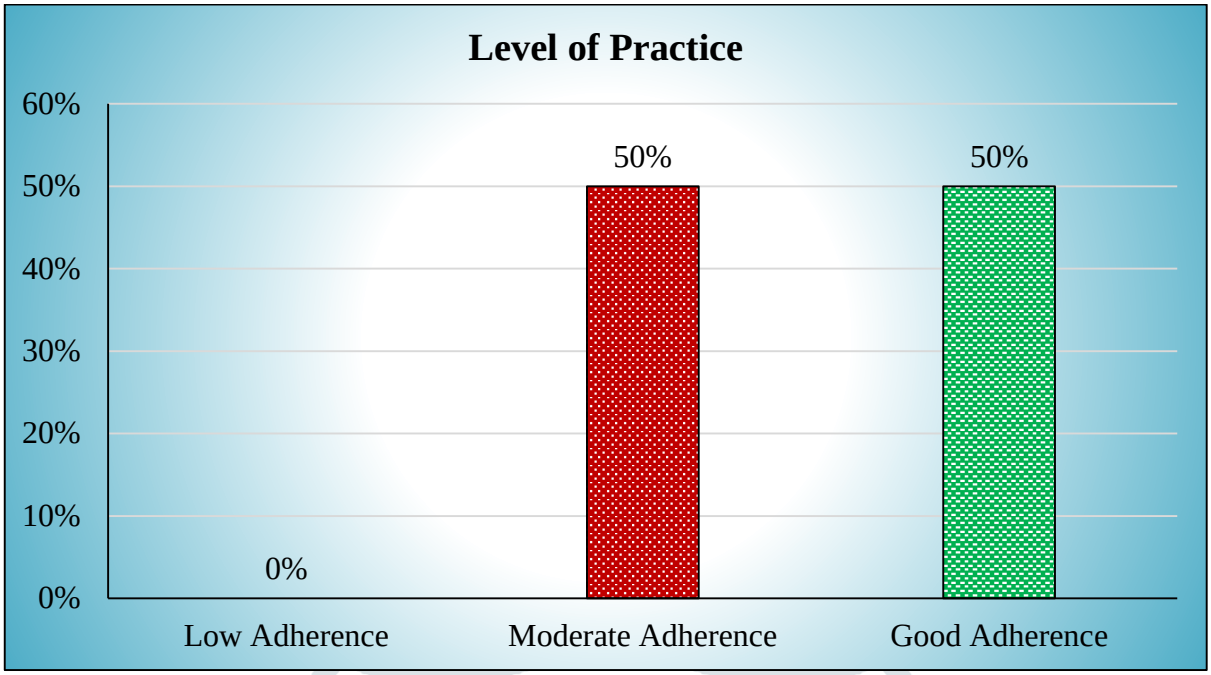

Figure 3: Percentage wise distribution of level of practice regarding eye care among patients with conjunctivitis

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