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# **Copies of Research Publications**

# Factors Associated with Caregivers Burden of Breast Cancer Patients – Review

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## Abstract

Caring for a patient with a disease such as breast cancer, which requires prolonged and sophisticated treatment modalities, can cause a significant burden on the caregiver, which cannot be measured or explained in depth with existing scientific evidence. Caregivers play a vital role in caring for family members with breast cancer from the beginning until the patient's outcome. Although caregivers have been part of many studies conducted to assess the severity of their burden, also they receive less care from others and the health care team members. Research findings depict that majority of the caregivers experienced a significant amount of caregiver burden. The review has found that many factors may influence a caregiver's burden. The manifestation of burden may vary depending upon the stage of cancer diagnosis, disabilities in the patient, emotional and physical capabilities, financial and social support available, and many more factors. The caregiver burden impacts the patient's and caregivers' life and well-being. Research focusing on interventions to reduce the burden is needed in today's scenario. Early, appropriate, and timely interventions help the caregiver utilize their potential effectively to balance their dual responsibility.

Keywords: Breast Cancer, family Caregiver, Caregiver Burden, Concept analysis, Antecedents, Consequences Factors associated with caregiver's burden of breast cancer patients Review

## 1. Background

Breast cancer has become the most commonly diagnosed cancer, surpassing lung cancer with an estimated 22,61,419 new cases in 2020<sup>1,2</sup>. The diagnosis of cancer has a dyadic effect among patients and caregivers. Apart from the emotional stress, fear, and pain following the surgical intervention induced in the patient, the vast responsibility of family and taking care of cancer patients falls upon the primary caregiver, which produces a disastrous effect. The caregivers of breast cancer patients often have extreme fatigue and burden. The ultimate factors contributing to caregivers' highest-burden are lack of time, social

and emotional dysfunction, pain, lack of sleep, and tiredness.<sup>3</sup>

The caregivers have a pivotal role in treating breast cancer patients compared to other debilitating illnesses such as neurotrauma or spinal cord injury. Breast cancer patients have few days of acute hospital admission, but the disease course has an extended duration after mastectomy. A caregiver than a health professional will care for the patient more effectively. During this period, they have to do many of the healthcare professionals' procedures, such as administration of medications, reassurance of the patient, encouraging mastectomy exercise, and other treatment aspects for managing the condition, for which they are inadequately trained.<sup>4</sup>



These challenges produce many physical, emotional, financial, social, and role changes that may affect the caregiver's quality of life. A cross-sectional study revealed a high level of burden experienced by the caregivers of breast cancer patients and needs intervention.<sup>6,7</sup>

Hence, the diagnosis of breast cancer affects the patient and the caregivers. The darker side of this scenario reflects that the problems of caregivers are hardly understood. Therefore, this review has highlighted the difficulties faced by the caregivers of breast cancer patients and the core focus of the interventions to help them cope with their lifestyle and provide care to their loved ones.<sup>5</sup>

### A concept analysis of caregiver's burden

A caregiver is a first-degree relative who is willing to participate in caring for the breast cancer patient.<sup>8</sup> The burden is defined as the recognized effect on the caregiver's life from the workload of caring for a breast cancer patient.<sup>9</sup> Caregiver burden is defined as the level of multifaceted strain perceived by the caregiver from the task of caring for a family member and or loved one over time<sup>10</sup>. After a thorough literature search, the caregiver's burden was categorized under the headings of caregivers' antecedents, consequences, and attributes.

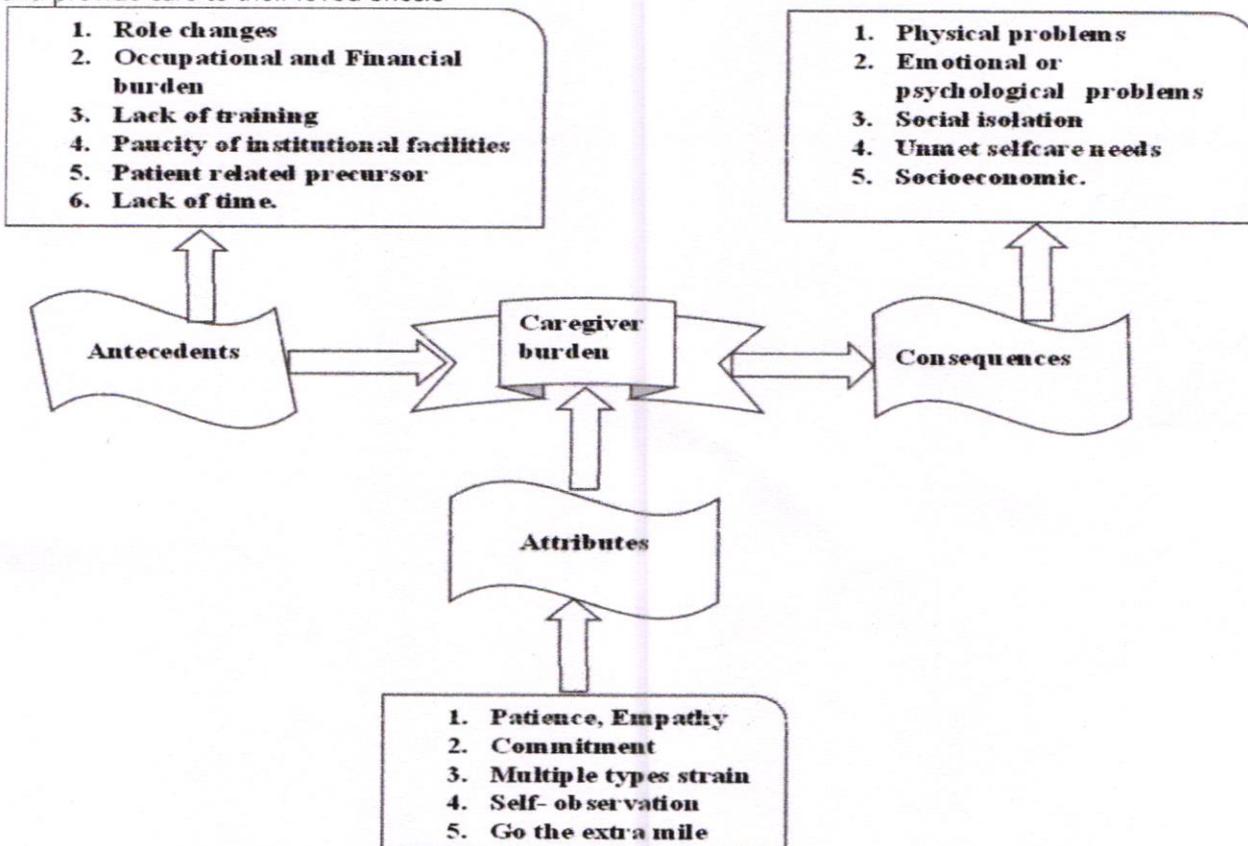


Figure 1 shows the schematic representation of the caregiver's burden.

### Antecedents of caregiver burden

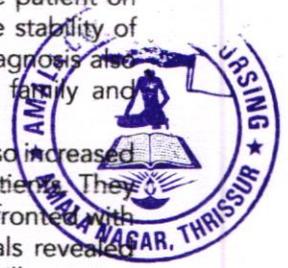
The antecedent is the events or attributes that must arise before the concept's occurrence.<sup>11</sup> After doing a detailed literature search, the following antecedent factors are identified.

#### Role changes

Family functions in a peculiar way wherein all the family members have responsibilities and roles in maintaining balance and fulfilling all development aspects. The family has six dimensions to achieve this goal, communication, social factors, problem-solving, affective response, affective involvement, and behavioural control. These dimensions bring about a balance within the family. This balance can sometimes be disturbed and results in a change of role dynamics. The family has to make and adapt to many changes when there is a cancer patient in the family. Here the caretaker takes a dual role in caring

for the patient and fulfilling the responsibilities. If a family member is diagnosed with cancer, it can bring many changes in the family. It changes priorities and interactions among family members and results in an excessive burden on the caregiver. Cancer is a chronic and unpredictable disease. It changes the caregiver's life plans who has to put the patient on priority. Sudden changes may affect the stability of the functioning of the family. Cancer diagnosis also affects the external functioning of the family and disrupts their social life<sup>12</sup>.

The number of informal caregivers has also increased due to the global increase in cancer patients. They receive new responsibilities and are confronted with role transitions. Randomized control trials revealed that psychological psychoeducation, skill training, and therapeutic interventions have significantly reduced caregivers' burden, though with minor to moderate effects. These interventions are hence encouraged for those caring for cancer patients.<sup>13</sup>



### Occupational and Financial burden

Family is essential in supporting and caring for the patients, helping them manage and adapt to their disease. Many factors such as increased duration of care at home, decreased family size, and decreased hospitalization have increased the disease's burden. Most caregivers have to leave their job to care for the cancer-affected family member, which leads to a high financial burden.<sup>14</sup> Thus, the caregivers require immense support to overcome this challenge in their social and family life. They require financial support to help them manage the burden of this disease. Training them with appropriate skills and palliative care has been found to lessen the burden of breast cancer among informal caregivers <sup>15</sup>.

### Lack of training

A common challenge caregivers face today is psychological problems like anxiety, depression, and other psychological disturbances. The caregivers need training on administering medications, handling the equipment, managing the complications of chemotherapy and radiation therapy, procedures related to treatment, providing comfort to the patient, and when and how to report to the healthcare facility. Most caregivers have low health literacy, leading to an increased burden resulting in adverse consequences<sup>13</sup>. Emotionally supporting themselves and getting proper training can help to overcome this challenge. The health system can help the caregiver obtain this training with proper guidance. The existing research could only reach the tip of the iceberg, and the rest is yet to be explored<sup>16</sup>.

### A paucity of institutional facilities

Breast cancer requires specialized surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and palliative treatment. These facilities are not available in all hospitals, especially in developing countries. To avail effective treatment options, the caregiver must approach various hospitals or travel miles and miles with the patient. Also, the caregiver is exhausted in case of any emergency because of inadequate transportation facilities, longer distances to the treating hospital, and unavailability of effective care services nearby.<sup>17</sup> Rising incidence rate, prolonged survival period, decreased stay in acute care facilities, and transformation of care to ambulatory care services lead to increased informal caregiver responsibility.<sup>18</sup> Some studies state that a lack of workforce and poor organizational facilities also disturbs informal caregivers<sup>17</sup>.

### Patient-related precursor

Many patient factors can influence the extent of the caregiver's burden. The diagnosis of cancer and its treatment can be overwhelming for the caregiver. Despite this, the unfavourable psychological reaction in the patient, such as melancholy, worry, mood swings, and social withdrawal, increases the depth of the caregiver's burden. Additional patient-related

factors are age, gender, treatment modality and duration, cancer symptoms' impact on the patient's daily life, and the patient's ability to cope with the diagnosis.<sup>19</sup>

### Lack of time

The major challenge faced by family caregivers is a lack of time. The family caregivers need to find more time to meet the needs of the caregivers, apart from their daily routine from work and family life. Also, they must be physically and mentally involved in caring for patients. The majority of their routine tasks and other work remain unsettled, which causes the feeling of exhaustion and burnout among the caregivers.

### Health consequences

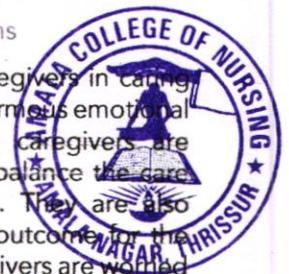
The existing research shows breast cancer patients' caregivers have depression, fatigue, stress, and anxiety. The inadequacies and burdens experienced by caregivers are exhibited in various ways. The primary symptoms manifestation exhibited by caregivers are as follows :<sup>20,21,22</sup>

### Physical problems

The family caregivers of cancer patients suffer many physical problems that can affect the quality of care provided. It includes fatigue, high blood pressure, back pain, weight changes, arthritis, and headache. The previous research showed that informal caregivers have a lower immune function, delayed wound healing, increased blood glucose levels, and deranged lipid profiles, putting them at high risk of cardiovascular disease<sup>24</sup>. These problems occur due to decreased sleep, poor diet, and continued physical and emotional stress. Apart from this, due to the demands of caregiving and lack of time, informal caregivers cannot take adequate rest, maintain adequate nutrition, perform the exercise, and often neglect their physical health<sup>25</sup>. Some studies reveal that when the patient has to undergo particular treatment procedures, it causes caregivers to struggle to meet their own needs and the patient's needs simultaneously<sup>26</sup>. When they have prolonged physical issues, the quality of care decreases, leading to poor patient outcomes. As the patient requires continuous attention from the caregiver, they have limited time to seek medical attention. There is a significant relationship between the family caregivers and patients' behavioural characteristics, indirectly affecting the caregivers' burden <sup>27</sup>.

### Emotional or psychological problems

The challenges faced by family caregivers in caring for breast cancer patients cause enormous emotional and psychological problems. The caregivers are concerned about their capacity to balance the care demands with other routine tasks. They are also scared about their future and the outcome for the patient<sup>16</sup>. To some extent, the caregivers are worried about their health which causes anxiety, fear, and depression among many informal caregivers. The main reasons for these psychological issues are fear



of cancer recurrence, interrupted family function, wrong perception of disease prognosis, and lack of adequate caregiver support and care<sup>28</sup>. These issues can hurt their quality of life<sup>29</sup>. Also, studies have proved that psychological issues increase as the caregivers gradually decline in their functional status<sup>30</sup>. Some studies show that women and their husbands have significant psychological stress after mastectomy, which affects their relationship. Since the husband undertakes the domestic role too, he continues to experience stress in the future<sup>31</sup>. It may lead to adopting health risk behaviours such as smoking and the use of eliciting drugs<sup>24</sup>. Many times, conversations regarding patient disease conditions with healthcare personnel are another cause to induce distress among caregivers. Factors such as lack of knowledge regarding the care methods, unavailability of various resources for patient care, and inability to cope with disease conditions add to this emotional stress<sup>32,33</sup>. Studies show that caregivers anticipate voluntary participation in emergencies and guidance and seek compassion from their friends, extended family members, and even care recipients.<sup>34</sup> Providing care for elderly cancer patients creates a multifaceted burden on caregivers. Identifying factors causing the burden is vital for providing critical support to caregivers<sup>35</sup>.

#### Social isolation

Social isolation is common among breast cancer survivors and their caregivers. It happens because of the patient's fear of facing society due to marked body image disturbances after cancer treatment. As the cancer survivor is not going out of the home, the caregiver is forced to remain at home to avoid emotional and psychological loneliness for the patient. The caregivers also avoid social gatherings, meetings, public functions, and family activities. Hence, social relationships are disrupted and may lead to significant social isolation, which can neither be vented to the patient nor anyone else. In providing care to breast cancer patients, the caregiver's responsibilities inflict a considerable burden on the caregiver, and studies suggest that social support offers excellent support to the caregiver of cancer patients<sup>36</sup>.

#### Unmet self-care needs

One of the difficulties that come across the family caregivers in performing their role in dealing with breast cancer patients is maintaining a balance in their caregiving role and meeting their wants. Providing care for patients with cancer is a complex and sequential process and can lead to an unstable and stressful life for a family caregiver and subsequently affect the person's holistic health. When this state persists for a distant future, it can reduce caregivers' standard and quality of living. Some studies state that caregivers of patients with cancer have broad and comprehensive unmet needs<sup>37</sup>. Most studies of primary caregivers of cancer patients state various problems lining up from

reduced physical and mental health distress to unfavourable impact on professional life. These circumstances can lead to a rise in burden and a reduced standard of living for caregivers. Earlier cancer diagnosis and favourable response to therapy were productively correlated with the caregiver's standard of living. The long period of caregiving role and adverse effects of providing care in the caregiver's lives are also associated with decreased caregiver's standard of living. Most family caregivers take up their role unexpectedly without adequate preparation, leading to a poorer standard of living<sup>38</sup>. Unmet wants of patients can raise the burden on the caregiver; and in turn, the difficulties faced by caregivers are closely related to the patient's comfort<sup>39</sup>.

#### Socio-economic impact

The rapid increase in population and increased lifespan in high and low-income countries directly result in increased incidence and mortality rate of breast cancer, increasing the burden on caregivers. The majority of studies in developed countries stated that informal caregivers are more prone to all kinds of intellectual and somatic burdens<sup>40</sup>. The incidence of cancer and the extent of the burden on caregivers have high significance on the country's economy. These can be influenced by the nation's socio-economic development, which may affect the availability of services for cancer caregivers. Studies showed that low socio-economic status could predict a high caregiver burden<sup>36</sup>. Cancer caregivers suffer a high financial burden due to cancer treatment's duration, complexity, and cost<sup>41</sup>.

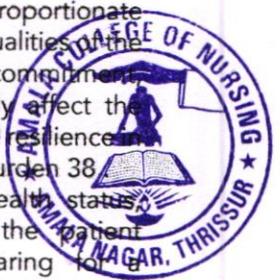
#### Attributes of caregiver's burden

Attributes of a caregiver's burden can be classified into three domains<sup>38</sup>.

1. Caregiver-related attributes,
2. Patient-related attributes
3. Caregiver-patient dyadic attributes.

**Caregiver-related attributes:** These are the caregiver's socio-economic status, gender, and age, which may have an inevitable direct influence on the caregiver's burden. Female caregivers experience more caregiver burden compared to male caregivers<sup>38</sup>. Elderly caregivers experience a higher burden compared to young adults. The socio-economic factors include the caregiver's education, occupation, and income. Studies indicate that high income and high-level education are proportionate to the caregiver burden. The inherent qualities of the caregiver, such as empathy, patience, compliance, and self-observation, can also inversely affect the caregiver's burden. Low self-efficacy and resilience of caregiver results in a higher caregiver burden<sup>38</sup>.

**Patient-related attributes:** The age, health status, stage of cancer quality of life of the patient influenced the caregiver burden. Caring for a younger patient and having more dependent children in the family can produce more burdens on the caregiver<sup>38</sup>.



Caregiver-patient dyadic attributes: It involves the quality or type of relationship between the caregiver and the patient. Informal caregiving is a dyadic process. It requires harmony and mutual satisfaction among the caregivers for a positive outcome. Spousal caregivers with reasonable marital satisfaction have demonstrated good mental well-being 38.

Clinical manifestations of caregiver burden:

Few studies show that caregivers of breast cancer patients have a high level of depression, fatigue, stress, and anxiety. The inadequacies and burdens experienced by caregivers are exhibited in various ways. 39,40,41,42

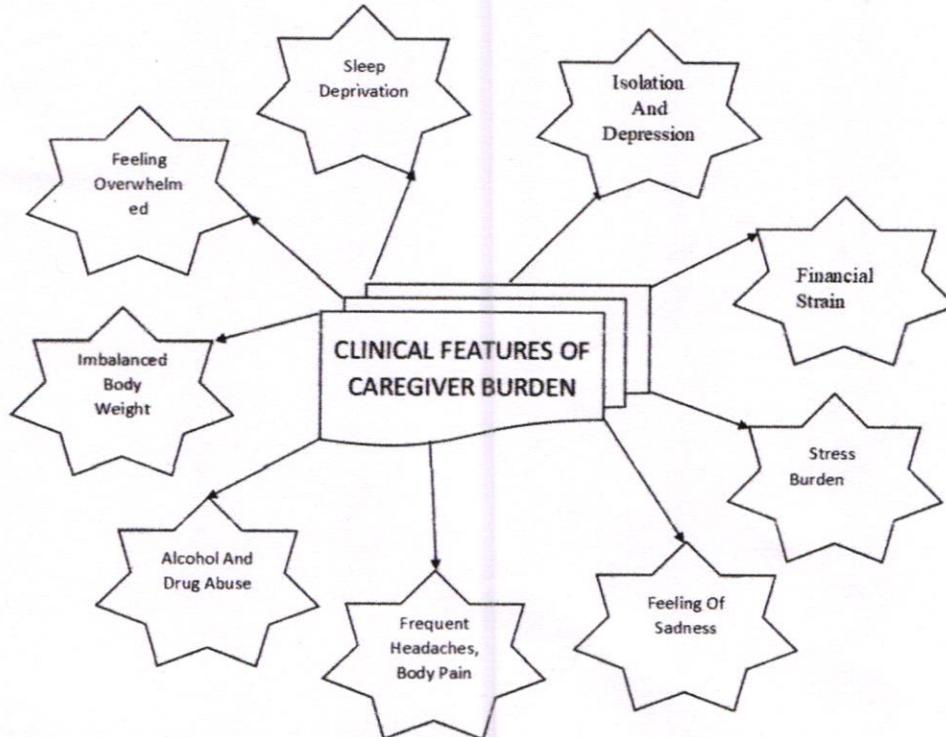


Fig 2 shows the symptoms experienced by the caregivers of breast cancer patients

Recommended interventions for caregivers of breast cancer patients

The caregiver burden significantly impacts breast cancer patients' physical and psychological well-being. Hence, an intervention must be implemented to support the caregivers and invoke positive

outcomes in the survivor. The intervention should address the caregiver's psychosocial, economic, and educational needs as they lack the preparation and knowledge to undertake the role of caregiver. The interventions offered for caregivers can be psychoeducational, skill training, and therapeutic 43,44.

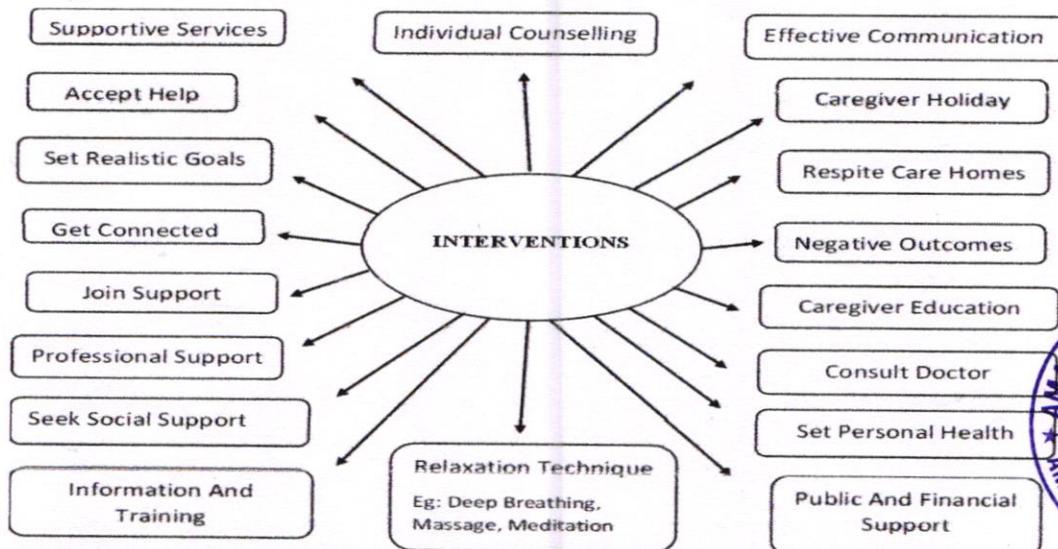


Fig 3 Illustrates the various interventions recommended for the caregivers of breast cancer

2. Conclusion

Caregivers have a significant role in the recovery of

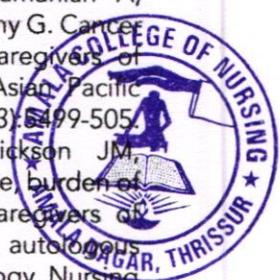
breast cancer patients. They spend considerable time caring for the patient. The breast cancer diagnosis is an unexpected, deadly occurrence, so



they feel unprepared to accept the diagnosis by the patient and caregivers. The healthcare providers can educate the caregivers and provide little guidance regarding patient care. In addition, emphasis on the importance of the caregivers' health and its impact on the patient outcome.

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# COVID-Somnia: A Multicentric Study on Sleep Disturbances During the COVID-19 Pandemic With Spatial Mapping of Hotspots

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## Abstract

### Objective

The purpose of this study was to document sleep quality and assess its sociodemographic, behavioral (i.e., tobacco use, alcohol use, and screen time), and mental-health-related indicators (i.e., anxiety and depression) in adults aged 30-59 years across three states of India, and to geo-locate state and district-level findings of sleep quality during the ongoing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

### Methods

From October 2020 to April 2021, residents (aged 30-59 years) of Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, and Delhi completed a web-based survey that included sociodemographic and behavioral factors, clinical history of COVID-19, and mental health screening instruments for anxiety and depression, namely the Generalized Anxiety Disorder 2-item (GAD-2) and Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2). The Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI) was used to evaluate the quality of sleep. Average PSQI scores were geo-mapped.

### Results

Of the 694 participants who responded, 647 completed the PSQI. The mean (SD) global PSQI score was 5.99 (3.2), with approximately 54% of participants reporting poor sleep quality (PSQI Score > 5). Eight hotspot districts with severe sleep disturbances (mean score PSQI > 6.5) were identified. Multivariable logistic regression analysis showed that compared to Madhya Pradesh, participants from Kerala and Delhi had 62% and 33% lower chances of having poor sleep quality, respectively. Those who screened positive for anxiety had higher odds of having poor sleep quality (adjusted odds ratio {aOR} = 2.4, P = 0.006\*).

### Conclusion

Overall, sleep quality was poor during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic (October 2020-April 2021), especially among those who reported high levels of anxiety. Among the three included states, there were differences in sleep quality.

**Categories:** Other, Epidemiology/Public Health

**Keywords:** india, psqi, pandemic, adults, sleep, covid-19

## Introduction

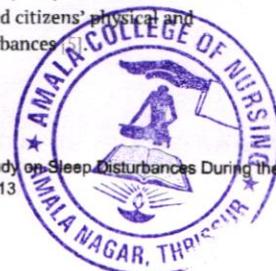
In January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. To date, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected more than 764 million people globally, with reported deaths of over 6.9 million [1].

The transmissibility of this disease has forced nations to impose stringent protective measures such as the use of facemasks, social distancing, travel restrictions, and partial or complete lockdowns [2]. The government of India, in March 2020, enforced a nationwide lockdown restricting the free movement in public places of more than 1.3 billion people [3]. This decision helped in containing the spread of the virus and the overall mortality of the population, but also resulted in significant lifestyle changes among people who had to adapt to a completely new way of life rapidly; feelings of apprehension, fear, and stress about the pandemic, disruptions to social connections, and changes in daily routine affected citizens' physical and mental health [4]. Stressful situations have been previously linked to sleep disturbances [1].

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Adequate sleep is vital to the proper functioning of the human body and mind. In fact, without enough sleep, the brain cannot function properly, and this can impair one's ability to concentrate, think clearly, and process memories [6]. The recommended duration of sleep for adults (aged 18-64 years) is 7 to 9 hours [7]. Several studies have been conducted globally to examine the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on sleep [8-10]. In Canada, Shillington et al. (2022) [8] assessed the sleep quality and quantity of Ontario adults during the initial phase of the pandemic (April-January 2020) and found that nearly two-thirds of the participants were "poor sleepers". Fear, anxiety, and stress related to COVID-19 were found to be substantive self-reported contributors. Similarly, in Italy, Franceschini et al. (2020) [9] identified that, during the lockdown (from March 10 to May 4, 2020), factors such as job insecurities, fear of becoming infected with COVID-19, financial instabilities, escalated use of social media to seek information about the pandemic status and disrupted social relationships affected sleep quality and precipitated insomnia. In an Indian study that evaluated the sleep quality of 808 inhabitants between April 17 and May 24, 2020, more than half (57.2%) had poor sleep quality, and those with self-reported mental health deterioration were more likely to experience poor sleep quality [10]. Although this valuable study was the first to assess the sleep quality of citizens of India during the initial months of the pandemic, a fuller understanding of the sociodemographic, behavioral, and clinical predictors of sleep quality as well as identifying if differences exist throughout the country remains unknown. Furthermore, a specific focus on middle-aged adults who might be especially prone to lockdown-related challenges due to work demands, childcare requirements, and elder-care responsibilities is warranted [11].

## Materials And Methods

### Study design

This study presents the baseline sleep-related data from a larger and ongoing longitudinal study titled "Health Outcomes for Adults during and following the Covid-19 Pandemic: The HOPE India Study", which was modelled after and includes members from "The HOPE Study" from Canada [8]. The primary focus of these two longitudinal studies, from India and Canada, was to study the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on lifestyle-related health behaviors and the overall well-being of adults. The specific objectives of "The HOPE Study" from India are to examine the lifestyle-related health behaviors (movement, diet) and overall well-being (including physical, mental health, and sleep quality) of adults (30-59 years) residing in parts of India during and after the stringent social distancing mandate of the COVID-19 pandemic. The present study reports the analyses of the baseline data that were collected while India experienced its stringent social distancing mandates (defined as the closing of both schools and bars, where alcohol is served in a particular state or union territory; October 2020-April 2021).

### Participants

Participants were recruited via a web-based survey. To be eligible for the study, participants needed to be: 1) residents of one of the three Indian states, one state each from north, central and south India, namely Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, or Delhi; 2) aged 30-59 years at baseline; 3) engaged in no international travel in the last two years; and 4) able to read and write in English, Malayalam, or Hindi.

### Study duration and sample size

The present study was conducted between October 2020 and April 2021. The study included 694 participants. Since the goal was to include as many participants as possible, the sample size was not calculated at the outset for this sub-analysis, although this was done for the overarching India "HOPE Study". However, the sample size was calculated retrospectively, assuming an 18% prevalence of sleep disturbance, a relative precision of 20%, and a non-response rate of 10%, resulting in a minimum sample size requirement of 550, which confirms that the power of the study was adequate [12]. Post hoc power calculations provided further confirmation (power=99%).

### Study questionnaire

Sociodemographic, behavioral, and other background variables: The socio-demographic data collected included age, gender, the current address of residence (state, district, urban or rural area), marital status, per capita income, education, occupation, and the type of family (nuclear or joint family). Information collected on behavioral factors included current tobacco, alcohol use, and daily screen time. Anthropometric information such as self-reported height and weight, and information on history of diagnosis of COVID-19 were also collected.

The monthly per capita income cut-off of 3931 INR (USD\$49.19) was used to determine upper and lower socio-economic status which is based on BG Prasad's socioeconomic scale of May 2021 [13].

### Study tools

(a) PHQ-9 AND GAD-2 (Depression and Anxiety Measurement Tools): Participants were screened for depression using the Patient Health Questionnaire 2 (PHQ 2) and anxiety using the Generalized Anxiety Disorder 2 (GAD 2) [14-15]. The PHQ-2 enquires about the frequency of depressed mood over the past two

Prof. Dr. RAJEE REGHUNATH  
PRINCIPAL

AMALA COLLEGE OF NURSING

AMALANAGAR PO, THRISSUR-680 555

weeks. The PHQ-2 includes the first two items of the PHQ-9. The PHQ-2 total score ranges from 0-6. A score of three or greater indicates major depressive disorder [14]. The GAD-2 is a brief and easy-to-perform initial screening tool for generalized anxiety disorder. A score of 3 points is the preferred cut-off for identifying possible cases in which further diagnostic evaluation for generalized anxiety disorder is warranted [15].

b) The Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI): The PSQI was utilized to assess sleep quality. PSQI is a self-rated instrument to assess sleep quality and screen for sleep disturbances over one month. There are 19 questions representing seven domains of sleep quality: sleep latency, sleep duration, subjective sleep quality, sleep efficiency, sleep disturbance, daytime dysfunction, and sleep medication use. The originators' scoring system recommended that the seven domains to be rated individually, then added together to produce a single "global" score with a potential range of 0 to 21 (zero indicating no difficulty with sleep and 21 indicating severe difficulties in all areas). A global score of more than 5 denotes a poor quality of sleep [16]. The PSQI tool has been validated for the Hindi and Malayalam-speaking population in India [16-17].

### Data collection procedure

Survey forms were posted and shared on social media (e.g., Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn). The first page of the form included an informed consent page. Upon agreeing to participate in the study, interested participants were directed to the survey page. The above-noted tools (PHQ-2, GAD-2, and PSQI) were also incorporated into Microsoft survey forms to support their online completion. The links were first shared on social media platforms by the investigators to their primary contacts, who were requested to complete the survey, and share and disseminate the link as much as possible among their contacts (secondary contacts), thus maximizing the effect of snowball sampling. The data were collected using a self-reported questionnaire administered in English and local languages (Hindi for MP and Delhi; Malayalam for Kerala). The back translation of the questionnaire to English was done to ensure its linguistic validation in local languages (i.e., Hindi and Malayalam).

### Ethical consideration

Ethical committee clearance was received vide Ref no.11/IEC/21/AIMS-08 from the Institutional Ethics Committee at Amala Institute of Medical Sciences, Thrissur, Kerala.

### Statistical analysis

The data were analyzed using Excel 365 and SPSS version 24 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY). Tableau Salesforce version 2021.4.3 (Tableau Software, Seattle, USA) was used to create the geo-mapping. Background information with categorical data were presented as frequencies and percentages. BMI was categorized according to the WHO standards (underweight <18.5, normal 18.5 - 24.99; overweight  $\geq$  25 -29.99; and obese  $\geq$  30).

Global PSQI scores were calculated per the tool's standard scoring guidelines and expressed as means and standard deviations. A pre-validated cut-off score of five or above five was used to indicate poorer sleep quality (sensitivity =89.6%, specificity =86.5%, kappa=0.75,  $p < 0.001$ ) [16,18]. A Chi-square test was used to determine the association between categorical variables. For regression analyses, those who received employment-related earnings were labelled "employed", while the rest were classified as "others", which included homemakers, students, retired from jobs, and pensioners. Univariable and multivariable logistic regression analyses were used to determine the predictors of poor sleep quality. Unadjusted and adjusted odds ratios were reported respectively. The variables which had  $p$ -value <0.25 in univariable analysis were included in the multivariable model. All tests were carried out with a 95% confidence interval and a significant  $p$ -value of  $\leq 0.05$ .

### Results

The final sample consisted of 694 participants (374 females and 320 males). The mean (SD) age of the participants was 44 (9) years old, with an almost equal share of participants from across three strata of 10-year age groups (i.e., 30-39; 40-49; 50-59). Detailed background characteristics are mentioned in Table 1.

Variables		n (%)
State	Madhya Pradesh	305(43.9)
	Delhi	46 (6.6)
	Kerala	343(49.5)
Residence	Rural	316(45.5)
	Urban	378(54.5)



Prof. Dr. RAJEE REGHUNATH  
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Gender Variables	Male	320(46.1) n (%)
	Female	374(53.9)
State	Madhya Pradesh	305(43.9)
	Delhi	46(6.6)
Age group (in years)	50-59	236(34)
	Kerala	343(49.5)
Residence	30-39	236(34)
	Rural	378(53.5)
Marital status	Married	607(87.4)
	Urban	378(53.5)
Gender	Others	87(12.6)
	Male	320(46.1)
Occupation	Professional	241(34.7)
	Female	374(53.9)
Age group (in years)	Semi-professional/clerk/shop owner farmer	120(17.3)
	50-59	236(34)
Occupation	Skilled	45(6.5)
	40-49	222(32)
Age group (in years)	Unskilled	39(5.6)
	30-39	236(34)
Marital status	Unemployed	249(35.9)
	Married	607(87.4)
Education	Professional degree	241(35.7)
	Others	87(12.6)
Occupation	Graduate degree	215(30.9)
	Professional	241(34.7)
Socio-Economic status*	Intermediate/diploma	92(13.3)
	Semi-professional/clerk/shop owner farmer	120(17.3)
Education	High school	69(9.9)
	Skilled	45(6.5)
Occupation	Middle school	43(6.2)
	Unskilled	39(5.6)
Socio-Economic status*	Primary school	26(3.7)
	Unemployed	249(35.9)
Education	Illiterate	08(1.2)
	Professional degree	241(35.7)
Occupation	Lower	250(39.2)
	Graduate degree	215(30.9)
Socio-Economic status*	Upper	388(60.8)
	Intermediate/diploma	92(13.3)
Education	Joint family	266(38.3)
	High school	69(9.9)
Occupation	Nuclear family	428(61.7)
	Middle school	43(6.2)
Socio-Economic status*	<18.5	26(3.7)
	Primary school	26(3.7)
BMI Categories	18.5-24.9	322(46.4)
	Illiterate	08(1.2)
Socio-Economic status*	25-29.9	260(37.5)
	Lower	250(39.2)
Screen time	≥30	86(12.4)
	Upper	388(60.8)
Family type	≥3 Hours	259(37.3)
	Joint family	266(38.3)
Current tobacco use	<3 hours	435(62.7)
	Nuclear family	428(61.7)
BMI Categories	Yes	61(8.8)
	<18.5	26(3.7)
Current alcohol use	No	633(91.2)
	18.5-24.9	322(46.4)
Screen time	No	86(87.6)
	25-29.9	260(37.5)
History of diagnosis of COVID 19 (Positive test result)	Yes	608(12.4)
	≥30	86(12.4)
Screen time	Absent	644(92.8)
	≥3 Hours	259(37.3)
Depression	Present	50(7.2)
	<3 hours	435(62.7)
Current tobacco use	Screened negative	625(90.1)
	Yes	61(8.8)
Current alcohol use	Screened positive	69(9.9)
	No	633(91.2)

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Screened negative	614(88.5)
Screened positive	80(11.5)
Madhya Pradesh	305(43.9)
Delhi	46 (6.6)

\*N=638 because of missing data State

<b>TABLE 1: Background characteristics of the participants (N = 694)</b>	
Kerala	343(49.5)
Rural	316(45.5)
Urban	378(54.5)

Note: The monthly per capita income cut-off of 3931 INR (USD\$49.19) was used to determine upper and lower socio-economic status which is based on BG Prasad socioeconomic scale of May 2021 [13].

Gender	Male	320(46.1)
Age group (in years)	40-49	222(32)
	30-39	236(34)
Marital status	Married	607(87.4)
	Others	87(12.6)
	Professional	241(34.7)
Occupation	Semi-professional/clerk/shop owner farmer	120(17.3)
	Skilled	45(6.5)
	Unskilled	39(5.6)
	Unemployed	249(35.9)
Education	Professional degree	241(35.7)
	Graduate degree	215(30.9)
	Intermediate/diploma	92(13.3)
	High school	69(9.9)
	Middle school	43(6.2)
Socio-Economic status*	Primary school	26(3.7)
	Illiterate	08(1.2)
	Lower	250(39.2)
Family type	Upper	388(60.8)
	Joint family	266(38.3)
BMI Categories	Nuclear family	428(61.7)
	<18.5	26(3.7)
	18.5-24.9	322(46.4)
	25-29.9	260(37.5)
Screen time	≥30	86(12.4)
	≥3 Hours	259(37.3)
Current tobacco use	<3 hours	435(62.7)
	Yes	61(8.8)
	No	633(91.2)

Sleep quality domains: A total of 59 out of 694 (8.5%) of the participants reported poor subjective sleep quality. About a quarter of the study participants had a sleep latency of more than 30 minutes, one-fourth of them having a latency of nearly an hour. Only 5% of the individuals consumed sleep medications, even though one-fifth of the participants had moderate to severely disrupted sleep (Table 2).



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Domain	Total Responses	Category and Frequency	
Subjective sleep quality	694	Very good = 315	
		Fairly good = 320	
		Fairly bad = 57	
		Very bad = 02	
		0 = 283	
Sleep latency*	694	1-2 = 208	
		3-4 = 150	
		5-6 = 53	
		0 = 132	
		1-9 = 429	
Sleep disturbances*	694	10-18 = 122	
		19-27 = 11	
		Not during the past month = 552	
		Less than once a week = 136	
		Once or twice a week = 26	
Use of sleep medication	694	Thrice or more times a week = 10	
		0 = 487	
		1-2 = 167	
		3-4 = 35	
		5-6 = 5	
Daytime dysfunction*	694	>7 hours = 150	
		7-6 hours = 138	
		6-5 hours = 131	
		<5 hours = 228	
		>85 = 358	
Sleep duration	647	75-84 = 77	
		65-74 = 35	
		<65 = 177	
		0-5 = 295	
		6-10 = 293	
Habitual sleep efficiency (%)	647	11-15 = 56	
		16-21 = 03	
		Global PSQI (Mean score=5.99±3.23, Range 0-17)	647

\* These categories are cumulative of sub-scores as per PSQI calculation guidelines

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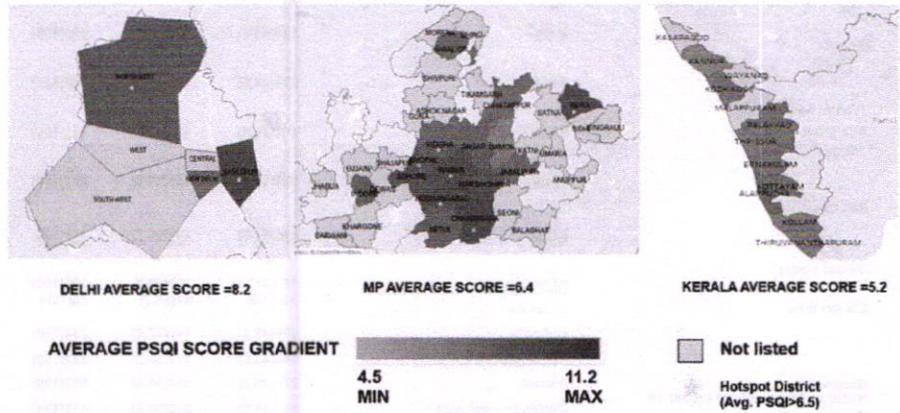
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**TABLE 2: Frequencies for PSQI among participants residing in three states of India.**

PSQI, Pittsburgh sleep quality index

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Geolocation: A geospatial map depicting the gradient of PSQI scores among districts/divisions of three Indian states along with identified hotspot districts i.e. those with poor sleep quality (PSQI >6.5) is provided in Figure 1. The cut-off of 6.5 was set arbitrarily depending on clinical severity and was decided by the investigators in the absence of any previously published literature on such a cut-off. Each district is represented in the map as a cluster, and the spatial clustering of average PSQI scores is mapped at the district level. Only those districts with at least five participants were included in this analysis for meaningful results to be arrived at. Cluster PSQI values ranged from 4.5 to 11.2 on average. Delhi State had the highest average score (8.2), followed by Madhya Pradesh (6.4), while Kerala had the lowest score (5.2). Six districts in Madhya Pradesh (viz. Bhopal, Raissen, Hoshangabad, Chhindwara, Vidisha, and Rewa), two in Delhi (North West and East Districts), and none in Kerala were identified as hotspot districts.



**FIGURE 1: Geospatial map depicting the gradient of PSQI score among districts/divisions of three Indian states**

Geospatial map depicting the gradient of PSQI: Pittsburgh sleep quality index (PSQI) score among districts/divisions of three Indian states along with identified hotspot districts with poor sleep quality (PSQI >6.5).

Figures show three Indian states with average PSQI grading ranging from 4.5 to 11.2. Hot spot districts (Average PSQI >6.5) are marked with a yellow star. Not listed are the districts with fewer than 5 participants.

Predictors of sleep quality: Univariable logistic regression showed that participants who belonged to Delhi and Madhya Pradesh (as against Kerala), resided in an urban area, were younger (30-39 years), belonged to the upper socioeconomic class, and screened positive for anxiety and depression had higher odds of having disturbed sleep (PSQI Score >5) as compared to their counterparts (Table 3).

Variable	Categories	PSQI score ≤5	PSQI score >5	Total	Odds ratio	Confidence interval	P value
State	Kerala	175(59.1)	121(40.9)	296(100)	Reference		
	Delhi	16(34.8)	30(64.2)	46(100)	1.099	0.568-2.126	0.780
	Madhya Pradesh	104(34.1)	201(65.9)	305(100)	2.406	0.257-0.498	0.002*
Residence	Rural	141(51.1)	135(48.9)	276(100)	Reference		
	Urban	154(41.5)	217(58.5)	371(100)	1.472	1.076-2.014	0.016*
Gender	Female	160(46.3)	186(53.7)	346(100)	Reference		
	Male	135(44.9)	166(55.1)	301(100)	1.106	0.776-1.443	0.723
Age group (in years)	50-59	101(48.6)	107(51.4)	208(100)	Reference		
	40-49	106(50.5)	104(49.5)	210(100)	0.926	0.631-1.359	0.695
	30-39	88(38.4)	141(61.6)	229(100)	1.512	1.034-2.213	0.033*



*Signature*

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Variable	Category	PSQI score ≤5	PSQI score >5	Total	Reference Odds ratio	Confidence Interval	P value
Marital status	Married	261(46.1)	305(53.9)	566(100)	Reference		
	Unmarried/Widow/Separated or divorced	33(41.3)	47(58.7)	80(100)	1.219	0.758-1.959	0.414
	Kerala	175(59.1)	121(40.9)	296(100)	Reference		
State Occupation	Not employed currently	106(45.6)	126(54.3)	232(100)	Reference		
	Delhi	16(34.8)	30(64.2)	46(100)	1.099	0.568-2.126	0.780
	Currently employed	189(45.5)	226(54.5)	415(100)	1.006	0.729-1.389	0.971
Residence Education	Madhya Pradesh	104(34.1)	201(65.9)	305(100)	2.406	0.257-0.498	0.002*
	Till higher secondary (12 years of schooling)	102(47.7)	112(52.3)	214(100)	Reference		
	Graduate & above	194(44.6)	243(55.4)	437(100)	1.438	0.938-2.014	0.058*
Socio-economic status	Female	198(56.8)	186(59.2)	384(100)	Reference		
	Male	185(45.8)	268(66.4)	453(100)	1.409	0.835-2.049	0.009*
	Upper family	193(49.6)	193(52.4)	386(100)	Reference		
Type of Family Age group (in years)	Nonbar family	196(49.6)	246(61.4)	442(100)	0.929	0.671-1.288	0.999
	Bar family	187(47.5)	167(42.8)	354(100)	Reference		
	18-49	187(47.5)	167(42.8)	354(100)	Reference	1.034-2.213	0.033*
BMI Category	<25	144(43.8)	185(56.2)	329(100)	1.162	0.852-1.583	0.343
	Married	261(46.1)	305(53.9)	566(100)	Reference		
	>25	189(47.8)	206(52.2)	395(100)	Reference		
Marital status Screen time	Unmarried/Widow/Separated or divorced	33(41.3)	47(58.7)	80(100)	1.219	0.758-1.959	0.414
	<3 hours	106(42.1)	146(57.9)	252(100)	1.264	0.919-1.738	0.150
	≥3 hours	106(42.1)	146(57.9)	252(100)	Reference		
Occupation History of diagnosis of COVID 19 (Positive test result)	Absent	276(46.2)	332(53.8)	598(100)	Reference		
	Currently employed	189(45.5)	226(54.5)	415(100)	1.006	0.729-1.389	0.971
	Present	19(38.8)	30(61.2)	49(100)	1.353	-0.294-0.899	0.320
Education Current tobacco use	Till higher secondary (12 years of schooling)	102(47.7)	112(52.3)	214(100)	Reference		
	Graduate & above	194(44.6)	243(55.4)	437(100)	1.438	0.938-2.014	0.058*
	Lower	123(53.8)	389(67.2)	512(100)	Reference		
Socio-economic status Current alcohol use	Upper	187(46.6)	292(55.9)	479(100)	1.465	0.888-2.063	0.029*
	Screened negative	179(47.7)	139(52.8)	318(100)	Reference		
	Screened positive	128(44.9)	258(55.1)	386(100)	1.818	0.868-3.829	0.092*
Depression	Screened negative	179(47.7)	139(52.8)	318(100)	Reference		
	Screened positive	128(44.9)	258(55.1)	386(100)	1.818	0.868-3.829	0.092*
	Screened negative	179(47.7)	139(52.8)	318(100)	Reference		
Anxiety	Screened positive	144(43.8)	185(56.2)	329(100)	1.457	0.952-2.189	0.041*
	<3 hours	189(47.8)	206(52.2)	395(100)	Reference		
	≥3 hours	106(42.1)	146(57.9)	252(100)	1.264	0.919-1.738	0.150

**TABLE 3: Socio-demographic, clinical, and contextual factors predicting the poor quality of sleep among the participants**

History of diagnosis of COVID 19	Present	No	Total	Reference Odds ratio	Confidence Interval	P value
Present	19(38.8)	30(61.2)	49(100)	1.353	-0.294-0.899	0.320
No	274(46.7)	313(53.3)	587(100)	Reference		
PSQI score <5	21(35)	39(65)	60(100)	1.626	0.934-2.831	0.086
No	144(43.8)	185(56.2)	329(100)	Reference		

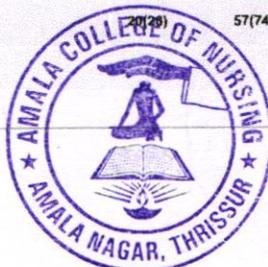
\*Statistically significant = P<0.05. The results of the univariable logistic regression analysis are shown here.

PSQI score <5

In multivariable logistic regression analysis, the adjusted odds ratio remained significant for the state variable and the presence of anxiety, suggesting these two factors as independent predictors for poor sleep (Table 4). Participants from Delhi had a 33% (aOR=0.67, CI=0.32-2.37) lower likelihood of having disrupted sleep than those from Madhya Pradesh, while participants from Kerala had a 62 percent (adjusted odds ratio (aOR)=0.38, CI=0.25-0.53, P=0.000\*) lower chance of having disrupted sleep than those from Madhya Pradesh. When compared to individuals who screened negative for anxiety, those who screened positive had a 2.4 times higher chance of experiencing disrupted sleep (aOR=2.40, CI=1.29-4.48, P=0.006\*) (Table 4).

Anxiety	Screened positive	Screened negative	Total	Reference Odds ratio	Confidence Interval	P value
Screened positive	20(28)	57(74)	77(100)	2.657	1.556-4.537	<0.001*
Screened negative	36(44.4)	45(55.6)	81(100)	1.055	0.660-1.685	0.824

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Variable	Categories	Adjusted Odds ratio	Confidence interval	P value
State	Madhya Pradesh	Reference		
	Delhi	0.672	0.329-1.374	0.276
	Kerala	0.377	0.253-0.561	<0.001*
Residence	Rural	Reference		
	Urban	1.007	0.681-1.487	0.973
Age group (In years)	50-59	Reference		
	40-49	0.908	0.593-1.391	0.657
	30-39	1.264	0.829-1.926	0.267
Socio-economic status	Lower	Reference		
	Upper	1.311	0.916-1.878	0.139
Screen time	<3hours	Reference		
	≥3 hours	1.312	0.907-1.896	0.149
Current Tobacco use	No	Reference		
	Yes	1.247	0.674-2.309	0.482
Depression	Screened negative	Reference		
	Screened positive	1.139	0.600-2.163	0.691
Anxiety	Screened negative	Reference		
	Screened positive	2.400	1.285-4.484	0.006*

**TABLE 4: Socio-demographic, clinical, and contextual factors predicting the poor quality of sleep among the participants**

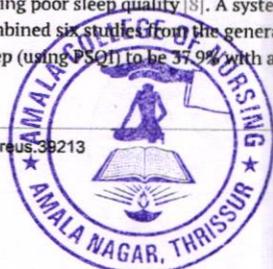
The results of multivariable logistic regression analysis are shown here.

\*Significance =P<0.05

## Discussion

The purpose of this study was to document sleep quality and assess its sociodemographic, behavioral (i.e., tobacco use, alcohol use, and screen time), and mental-health-related indicators (i.e., anxiety and depression) in adults aged 30-59 years across three states of India, and to geo-locate state and district-level findings of sleep quality during the ongoing pandemic (October 2020 to April 2021). Participants' mean global PSQI score was greater than five, indicating poor sleep quality. People residing in Madhya Pradesh were found to be the most affected with respect to sleep quality and disturbances. Anxiety was found to be an important independent predictor of poor sleep quality.

In India, community-based research on sleep disruptions has revealed a significant hidden burden of the condition [12,18]. The ongoing pandemic, as well as its impact on lifestyle, has not only brought these difficulties to light but has also exacerbated the problem. This was evident from a survey conducted in India before the pandemic, where disrupted sleep was shown to be prevalent in only 18% of the population [12]. An Indian study among adults during the COVID-19 pandemic reported high PSQI scores, with 57.2% of the respondents having poor sleep quality [10]. Similar findings were reported during the early phase of COVID on sleep quality in an article from the HOPE Canada project, with over two-thirds of individuals identified as having poor sleep quality [8]. A systematic review on sleep problems during the COVID-19 pandemic combined six studies from the general population (n=4722) and reported the pooled prevalence of disturbed sleep (using PSQI) to be 37.9% with an average PSQI score of 6 [19]. In the present study, more than half of



the respondents reported sleeping for less than 6 hours a day. This is well below the recommended 7-8 hours of sleep for an adult [7]. Findings from the current study are about one hour less than what was reported by another Indian study during the pandemic, where participants' self-reported mean sleep, at 6.9 hours, was nearly reaching the lower end of sleep duration guidelines [10].

Normal documented adult sleep efficiency is 85-90% [20]. In the present study, about 33% of participants had a sleep efficiency of less than 75%, which is considered poor sleep efficiency and indicative of insomnia [20]. We also found that around 29% of the study participants had a sleep latency of more than 30 minutes, which is well above the normal adult sleep latency of 10-20 minutes [21]. Sleep latency of more than 20 minutes falls under the category of insomnia. In a large (n=72,262) pre-pandemic study conducted in India, Pengpid et al. (2021) [22] found the prevalence of insomnia to be 12.7% among adults. Certainly, the problem has increased during the pandemic. This high prevalence of insomnia during the pandemic, now referred to by some researchers as COVID-somnia, can be attributed to fear of dying from the disease and/or the result of drastic lifestyle adjustments due to the pandemic [23].

Compared to residents of Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, and Kerala residents experienced 33% and 62% lower chances of sleep disturbance respectively, and the results for Kerala were statistically significant. The maximum number of hotspot districts with severe sleep disturbances were from Madhya Pradesh. The probable explanation is that during this period, Kerala recorded one of the least case fatality rates in the country, well below the national average of 1.2% [24], whereas, case fatality rates of Madhya Pradesh (1.3%) and Delhi (1.4%) were above the national average [25]. These findings might be linked to the high fear of dying in the two states compared to Kerala. To potentiate this hypothesis, we also found that the proportion of anxiety and depression was also lowest in Kerala compared to the overall prevalence of 11.5% and 10.5%, respectively. Additionally, Kerala has a better overall health service than other included states, therefore, improved health care may possibly be a likely factor [26].

It has been known that depression and anxiety can lead to sleep disorders [27]. Also, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health are well documented [28]. The current study also showed that people who screened positive for depression and anxiety had a higher likelihood of having sleep problems. After adjustment for other variables anxiety emerged as a significant predictor of poor sleep quality. Studies conducted in India and abroad also corroborated these findings [9,12,20].

In the present study, sleep disturbances were more prominent among those who were single, separated/widowed/widower/divorced, compared to those who were married, though not statistically significant. The probable reason for this finding could be the spousal emotional support to handle the anxiety, fear of dying, and coping with the loss [29]. In the present study, those with a BMI of more than 25 had a slightly higher prevalence of disturbed sleep compared to those with a BMI of less than 25, but this was not statistically significant. Studies in the past have linked disturbed sleep to higher BMI, being overweight, or being obese [22].

In the present study, although not statistically significant, those who had suffered from COVID-19 (tested positive) had a higher prevalence of disturbed sleep compared to those without a history of being tested COVID-positive. Similar findings were reported by Jahrami et al. 2021 [30]. This might be attributed to the direct pathological effect of COVID-19 and the psychological impact of the disease [30].

## Limitations

Because it was a self-reported online survey, people without access to electronic devices or internet access may have been missed, which is a limitation of most online surveys. Furthermore, the coverage may have been limited because the link to the questionnaire was shared mainly through the primary and secondary contacts of investigators belonging to India. Also, the impact of job and financial losses on sleep quality during the studied stage of the pandemic was not thoroughly investigated. Since this was a cross-sectional analysis, reverse causality cannot be ruled out.

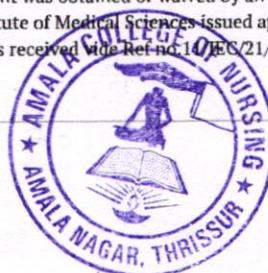
## Conclusions

Sleep quality was poor among Indian adults during the COVID-19 epidemic (October 2020-April 2021), as evidenced by the global PSQI scores, and the fact that more than half of the participants had poor sleep quality. Anxiety emerged as an important predictor of poor-quality sleep. In terms of sleep disruptions, those belonging to Madhya Pradesh were the most affected, followed by those from Kerala and Delhi, highlighting the existence of state-level differences within the country.

## Additional Information

### Disclosures

**Human subjects:** Consent was obtained or waived by all participants in this study. Institutional Ethics Committee, Amala Institute of Medical Sciences issued approval vide Ref no.11/IEC/21/AIMS-08. Ethical committee clearance was received vide Ref no.11/IEC/21/AIMS-08 from the Institutional Ethics Committee



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at Amala Institute of Medical Sciences, Thrissur, Kerala. **Animal subjects:** All authors have confirmed that this study did not involve animal subjects or tissue. **Conflicts of interest:** In compliance with the ICMJE uniform disclosure form, all authors declare the following: **Payment/services info:** All authors have declared that no financial support was received from any organization for the submitted work. **Financial relationships:** All authors have declared that they have no financial relationships at present or within the previous three years with any organizations that might have an interest in the submitted work. **Other relationships:** All authors have declared that there are no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

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**RESEARCH ARTICLE**

**A Study to Assess the Effectiveness of Interventional Program  
Regarding Covid 19 Among Adults in Selected Districts of Kerala**

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**ABSTRACT**

The COVID-19 is a continuing global pandemic of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) originated by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 1. **Objectives:** To assess knowledge regarding the preventive strategies of COVID 19, To determine the effectiveness of interventional programme, to find out association between level of knowledge with selected demographic variables. The research approach takes on for this study is quantitative. A descriptive survey research design is used. Purposive sampling techniques were warned for this study. Sample size is 200. During pretest about 43% were presented with good knowledge, which was increased up to 85% during post-test by implications of interventional programmes. During pretest, significant association was found between level of knowledge and the selected variable. During posttest significant association was found between level of knowledge and selected variables like age, religion, area of residence, presence of diseases / vaccination.

**Keywords--** COVID 19, Interventional programmes

**INTRODUCTION**

The COVID-19 is an infectious disease, country reported huge number of

morbidity and mortality related to this pandemic [1]. Some of the primary symptoms of this infections are fever, breathlessness, headache and dizziness. Several respiratory complications like pneumonia were aroused [2]. The virus was initially recognised in Wuhan, China. The first case of the COVID - 19 spotted in Thrissur district of Kerala [3]. Assessing knowledge of community is significant in detecting gaps and strengthening preventive measures. Considering the relevance of these above factors, this study is aimed to evaluate knowledge regarding COVID 19 pandemic and teaching preventive strategies to overcome complications of COVID 19 among adults [4, 5].

**Objectives**

1. To assess the knowledge regarding the preventive strategies of COVID 19.
2. To determine the effectiveness of interventional programme.
3. To find out association between level of knowledge with selected demographic variables.

**The research approach**

The research approach adopted for this study is quantitative research approach

**Research design**

A descriptive survey research design

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is used to carry out to assess the knowledge regarding preventive strategies of COVID 19 among adults above 40 years with co morbidities.

### Setting

Setting is the specific places where the information is gathered. This study was conducted through an online survey using a structured questionnaire among adults above 40 years with co morbidities.

### Population

Population is a set of people or entities to which the result of a research is to be generalized. The population of this study consists of adults above 40 years.

### Sample size & Sampling techniques

Purposive sampling techniques are used for this study. Sample size is 200. The study conducted in 200 individuals through online platform.

### Research Tools

**Tool 1:** A Structured questionnaire to assess demographic variables.

**Tool 2:** Questionnaire to assess the knowledge regarding preventive strategies of COVID 19 pandemic.

**Interventional programme:** Informative video on the use of sanitizer, mask, social distancing (SMS), hand hygiene, diet, sleep and rest, complications.

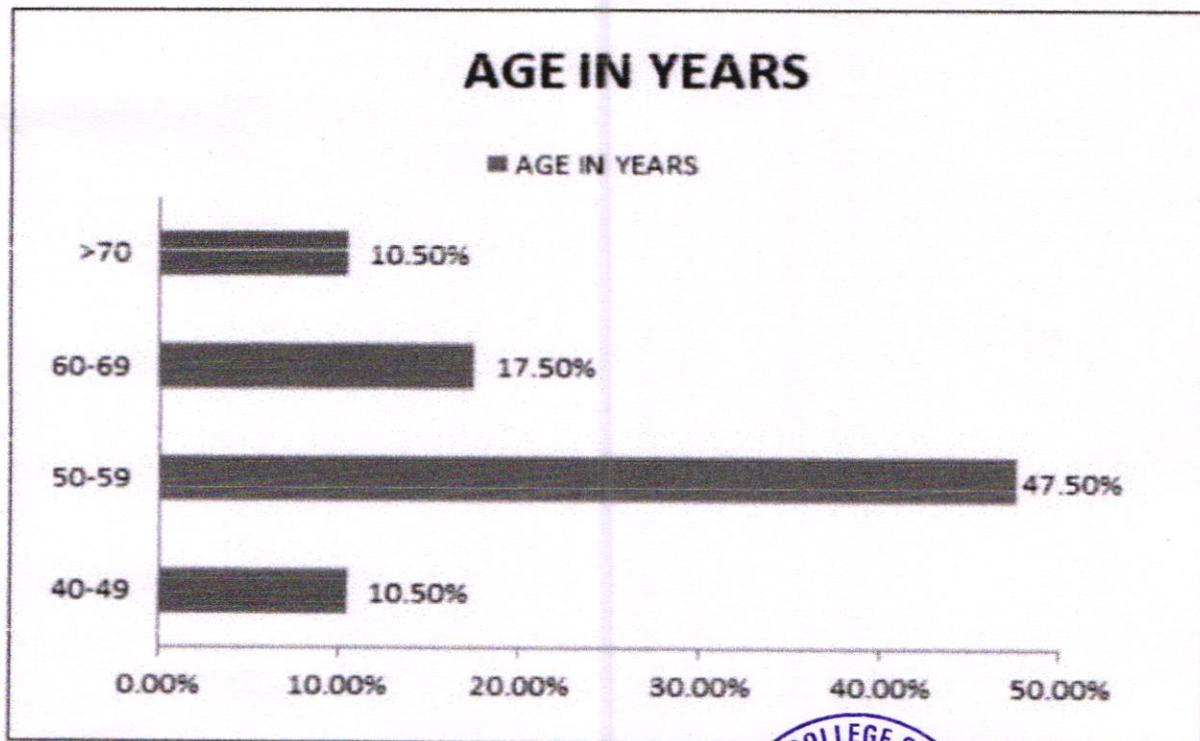
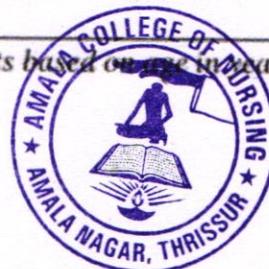


Figure 1: Showing distribution of subjects based on age in years



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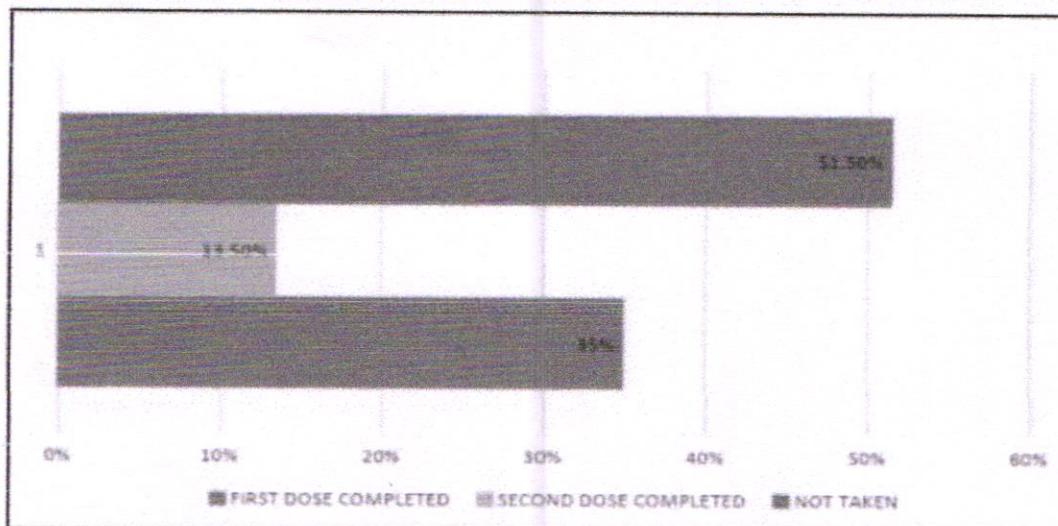


Figure 2: Distribution of subjects based on vaccination against COVID 19

**Regarding the level of knowledge about COVID 19**

Table 1: Pretest Score

Pre-Test Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage(%)
Good	86	43
Average	72	36
Poor	42	21

Table 2: Post test score

Post-test knowledge	Frequency	Percentage(%)
Good	170	85
Average	19	9.5
Poor	11	5.5

**Effectiveness of interventional program**

- During pretest about 43% were presented with good knowledge, which was increased up to 85% during post test.

**Association between level of knowledge and selected variables**

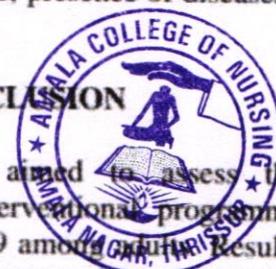
- During pretest, significant association was found between level of knowledge and the selected variable,

presence of disease

- During post test significant association was found between level of knowledge and selected factors like age, religion, area of residence, presence of diseases / vaccination

**CONCLUSION**

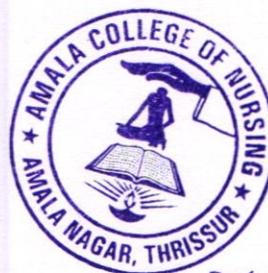
This study aimed to assess the effectiveness of interventional programme regarding COVID 19 among health workers. Results shows that during pretest about 43% were



presented with good knowledge, which was increased up to 85% during posttest by implications of interventional programmes. During pretest, significant association was found between level of knowledge and the selected variable, presence of disease. During post test significant association was found between level of knowledge and selected variables like age, religion, area of residence, presence of diseases and vaccination. The study assessed the knowledge regarding preventive strategies of COVID-19 among adults and identified the need of physiological interventions to be taken in community settings.

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## Nursing Implication for an Emerging Disease - Whatsappitis

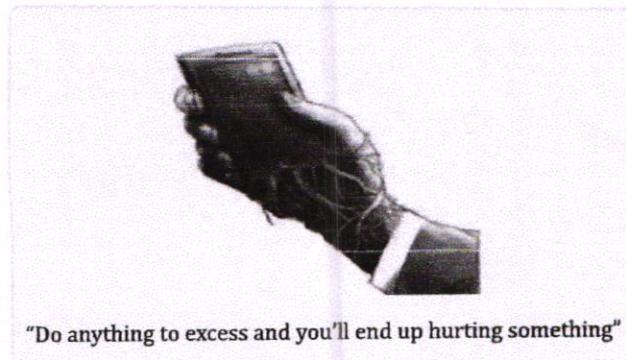
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### Abstract

**WhatsAppitis**, a condition caused by the excessive use of the popular instant messaging app, whatsappitis. It defines inflammation of the fluid-filled sheath that surrounds a tendon. Symptoms of tenosynovitis include pain, swelling and difficulty moving the particular joint where the inflammation occurs. Major clinical features are Pain at the radial side of the wrist, Spasms, Tenderness, occasional burning sensation in the hand, Swelling over the thumb side of the wrist, Difficulty gripping with the affected side of the hand, neck pain etc. Nursing fraternity must be made aware of the disease and nursing care that should be provided for the similar cases.

**Keywords:** whatsappitis

Nursing fraternity should be aware of the disease and with the help of nursing process, will really help to get rid of the issues related to whatsappitis.

### Nursing Diagnosis

Acute pain at the radial side of the wrist, neck related to inflammation associated with increased disease activity as evidenced by guarding on motion of affected joints.

**Expected outcome:** Client is able to participate in self care activities.



*Signature*

Citation: Rinu David. "Nursing Implication for an Emerging Disease - Whatsappitis". Medicon Medical Sciences (2022): 27-29.

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**Intervention:**

- Assess pain characteristics (quality, severity).
- Assess the signs of joint inflammation (redness, warmth, swelling, decreased motion).
- Evaluate location and description of pain.
- Use ergonomically fit measures like good posture, ergonomically fit furnitures.
- Restrict in usage of gadget helps to decrease strain.
- Instruct patient to take anti-inflammatory medication as prescribed.
- Encourage use of alternative methods of pain control such as relaxation, guided imagery.

**Evaluation:** Client verbalized decreased pain.

**Nursing Diagnosis**

Impaired physical mobility related to activity limitation due to pain as evidenced by reluctance to attempt movement limited ROM.

**Expected Outcome:** Client achieves optimal level of mobility.

**Intervention:**

- Assess the activity tolerance.
- Reinforce and teach stretching exercises of elbow, neck, shoulder and wrist.
- Instruct to use ergonomically fit measures.
- Coordinate physiotherapy services.

**Evaluation:** Client able to perform physical activity within normal limits.

**Nursing Diagnosis**

Impaired skin integrity related to poor circulation of the affected area as evidenced by sore wrist, swelling over the thumb side of the wrist.

**Expected Outcome:** Patient experience decrease in inflammation.

**Intervention:**

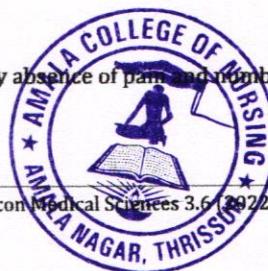
- Assess the inflamed skin.
- Assess the ability to move the area.
- Assess for history of preexisting diseases (DM, AIDS, CVD).
- Apply thumb spica (splint) to immobilize the wrist and thumb.
- Apply topic vasodilator.
- Complete abstinence from using the phone to send message.

**Evaluation:** Client experiences decrease in the inflammation at affected area.

**Nursing Diagnosis**

Risk for ineffective tissue perfusion related inflammatory process and edema.

**Expected Outcome:** Patient maintains adequate tissue perfusion as evidenced by absence of pain and numbness.



**Intervention:**

- Assess and compare neurovascular status (skin colour, edema, pain, ROM).
- Assess the affected extremity.
- Apply topic vasodilator.
- use splint to the affected area.

**Nursing Diagnosis**

Deficient knowledge related new disease as evidenced by verbalized lack of knowledge.

**Expected Outcome:** patient verbalizes understanding of the disease and treatment.

**Intervention:**

- Assess the clients level of knowledge about disease condition and its management.
- Introduce or reinforce disease process information.
- Discuss about signs and symptom of disease condition.
- Inform about stretching exercises and follow up.
- Encourage ergonomically fit measures to prevent disease.

**Evaluation:** Client verbalized understanding about disease condition and its management.

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**RESEARCH ARTICLE****A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Family Planning Among Married Women in Selected Communities with View to Prepare Video Assisted Teaching**

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**ABSTRACT**

Family planning is the practice of control the number of children, and one has in a particular interval between their birth, to promote the maternal health especially by means of temporary or permanent method of sterilization. Objectives 1. Assess the knowledge regarding family planning methods among married women 2. Assess the attitude regarding family planning methods among married women. Find the association between knowledge and selected demographic variables. quantitative research approach was used this study. A descriptive design was adopted for the study. The study was conducted in selected communities Kerala. Convenience sampling technique is used for this study. A sample of 500 married females in the age group of 20-36 yrs. residing within in Kerala. 44% has poor knowledge, 42% has average knowledge, 10% has good knowledge and only 4% has excellent knowledge regarding family planning methods.

**Keywords--** Family planning methods, Knowledge, Attitude, Married women, Video assisted teaching

**INTRODUCTION**

Family planning is to improve maternal health, prevent unwanted

pregnancy, help partners to attain their desired spacing and family size, protection from reproductive tract infections and to enhance baby's health. The common methods used in family planning includes condoms, intrauterine devices, Hormonal contraceptives, implants, vaginal rings, female sterilization [1]. Even though most methods of birth control are highly effective when used correctly, there is always a chance that the methods may fail. The most common side effects of contraception are irregular menstrual bleeding, acne, headache, weight gain and ovarian cyst [2].

**NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE**

Family planning can have a positive impact on population growth, maternal mortality and infant mortality rate. The high occurrence of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases can be prevented through contraceptive use [3]. The use of family planning services has increased in many countries of the world. According to WHO, although a definite increase there are still over 200 million women worldwide who would like to keep way pregnancy, but another group are not using an effective method of birth control measures due to lack of supplies, cultural, political blockade and poor quality of services. India is the heavily populated country of the world, the government of India launched a family welfare programme



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in 1952 to speed up the economic and social development by bring down the population rate [4]. But this program has met with only marginal success. This is because people of India have different levels of awareness and acceptance of methods of family planning [5]. The aim of this study to boost the knowledge of people, which helps them for a responsible parenting and adaptation of family planning practices, best suited to the adopter. The society may also benefit from this study because the study will help people in larger society to appreciate the roles of family planning in birth and population control [6].

### Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge regarding family planning methods among married women
2. To assess the attitude regarding family planning methods among married women
3. Find the association between knowledge and selected demographic variable

### Research Approach.

In this study quantitative approach was used

### Research Design

A descriptive design was used for the study

### Research setting

The study was conducted in selected communities Kerala.

### Population

population in this study is married females between the age group of 20-36yrs

### Sampling technique

Convenience sampling technique is used for selecting the samples for the study.

### Sample size

A sample of 500 married females between the age group of 20-36 years residing in Kerala

### Description of the tool

The structured interview schedule consisted of two sections:

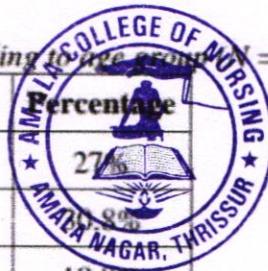
Section 1 To assess the social demographic variables

Section 2 Structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding family planning.

## DISCUSSION

Table 1: Distribution of subjects selected according to age group (N = 500)

S. No.	Age in years	Frequency	Percentage
1	20 – 24 years	135	27%
2	25 – 28 years	154	30.8%
3	29 – 32 years	94	18.8%
4	33 – 36 years	117	23.4%



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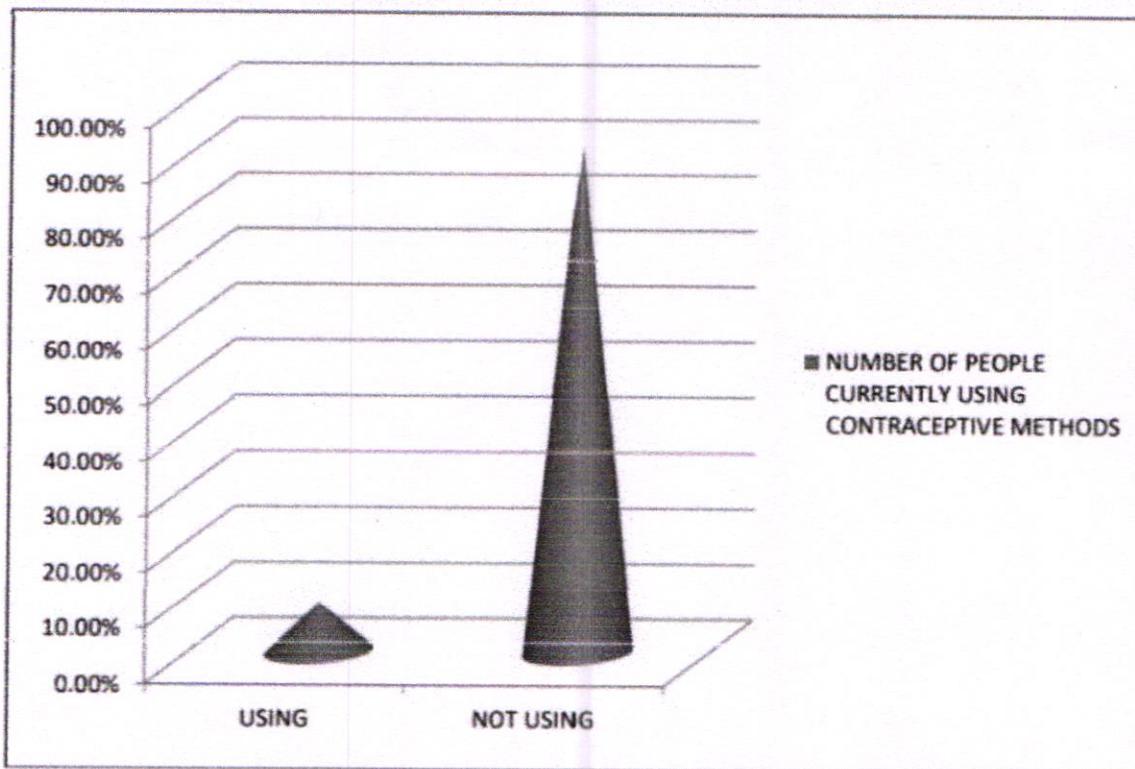


Figure 1: Number of People Currently Using Contraceptive Methods.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage of knowledge regarding family planning (n=500).

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent	2	4%
Good	5	10%
Average	21	42%
Poor	22	44%

Table 2: Association between knowledge of family planning among married women with number of People Using Contraceptive Methods.

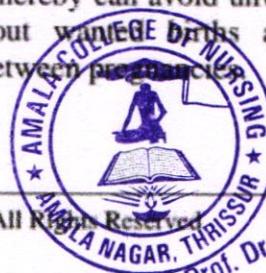
S. No.	Are You Currently Using Any Contraceptives	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Chi Square	P Value
1	Yes	0	8	13	23	9.73	7.81
2	No	9	53	124	270		

There is a significant association between knowledge and attitude regarding family planning among married women with number of people currently using contraceptive methods.

### CONCLUSION

This study was conducted to assess the level of knowledge and attitude towards family planning methods among

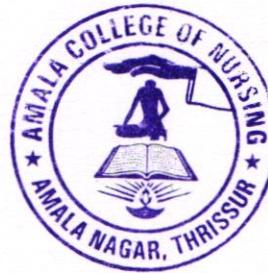
reproductive age women in selected communities with a view to prepare video assisted teaching. The study was conducted on 500 married women between the age group of 20 to 36. People can be encouraged to adopt appropriate family planning methods thereby can avoid unwanted births, bring about wanted births and maintain interval between pregnancies.



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July 22

## Maternal Cardiac Arrest: An Emerging Threat

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### Abstract

CPR occurs during pregnancies is a reality. When this happens, it's the most critical situation for the caregivers to manage immediately. A thorough understanding of changes that occur during pregnancy can help in making correct decisions. Although the attention should be on the mother, it is important to remember that another possible life is on the line. The mother is resuscitated in the same way as any other patient, with a few slight adaptations due to the changes that occur during pregnancy. The multidisciplinary team should be involved early in the process to ensure that both the mother and the newborn receive proper care. This article will analyze the risks and concerns during this emergency.

Keywords: CPR; Maternal Cardiac Arrest; Pregnancy; Emerging Threat; Resuscitation

### Abbreviations

CPR: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation; AED: Automated External Resuscitation; AHA: American Heart Association; ECC: Emergency Cardiovascular Care

### Introduction

CPR is a medical milestone, but sometimes it is in vain. The term "CPR" was originally coined less than 50 years ago. The roots of resuscitation, however, are centuries old. This leads to a slowly evolving course hampered by the rejection of inadequate techniques, the curiously slow adoption of proven interventions, and even cycles of abandonment and rediscovery [1]. To understand and follow the evolution of modern practices, one must first examine the history of resuscitation.

A cardiac arrest is a condition in which the heart no longer beats normally. Because of this, the brain and other vital organs cannot receive oxygen-rich blood. Unless treated immediately, a person in cardiac arrest is clinically dead and will remain that way. A high-quality CPR can artificially keep the blood pumping, but an AED is necessary to restart the heart. An AED can help a person whose heart has stopped beating by delivering a defibrillation "shock". An AED defibrillator can significantly increase a person's chances of survival by 7-10% every minute that he/she remains in sudden cardiac arrest without a shock [1,2].

Oxygen deprivation caused by cardiac arrest is particularly harmful to pregnant women. As the fetus grows, the mother must provide the fetus with significant amounts of oxygen. A woman's oxygen consumption increases by 20% and her cardiovascular metabolic rate increases by 40% when she is

Citation: Don Jose K, et al. "Maternal Cardiac Arrest: An Emerging Threat". *Acta Scientific Women's Health* 4.8 (2022): 18-20.



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pregnant. Pregnancy-related fluctuations in hormones such as progesterone and estrogen can also restrict airways and increase the chances of maternal cardiac arrest. When they are combined, these physiological changes make cardiac arrest a particularly life-threatening condition in pregnant women [1,2]. It is therefore critically important to start CPR immediately and administer an AED to pregnant women suffering from sudden cardiac arrest.

#### Risks in pregnancy

Although the causes of cardiac arrest are well-known in general, the causes in pregnancy are less well-known, however, an earlier study has discovered that a dysfunctional heart's conduction system could be one of the causes. There are also women on the list who already have a bunch of heart disease risk factors. Aside from that, lifestyle illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia enhance the risk, and obesity is one of the variables that we cannot avoid. Preeclampsia and gestational diabetes, on the other hand, require special monitoring because they both pose a high health risk [3].

Expectant mothers are at risk for cardiac arrest for a variety of reasons, but the causes can be classified as obstetric, non-obstetric, or iatrogenic. A hemorrhage, eclampsia, and an embolism of amniotic fluid are all obstetric causes. Sepsis, pulmonary embolism, previous cardiovascular disease, and stroke are some of the most common non-obstetric causes. Anesthetic problems during delivery or testing are common iatrogenic causes. In the event of maternal cardiac arrest, particular guidelines should be followed due to the hazards connected with anesthetics. Intubation for anesthetic care, in particular, can obstruct prompt CPR and resuscitation in pregnant women who experience cardiac arrest. As a result, CPR must take precedence over intubation [4].

#### Concerns in the emergency

The updated AHA CPR and ECC recommendations, which were announced in 2020, provide a framework for optimizing resuscitation for in-hospital maternal cardiac arrest sufferers [5]. The recommendations, developed by top physicians and scientists, use existing knowledge to establish a maternal resuscitation algorithm that emphasizes the significance of simultaneous intervention. Concurrent intervention, in general, means that advanced life support personnel responding to a maternal cardiac arrest must conduct both maternal and obstetric treatments at the

same time which highlights the need for a multidisciplinary expert team to function during these emergencies [7].

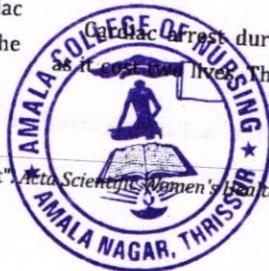
Because of the pressure of the uterus which inhibits the effectiveness of compressions to circulate blood, chest compressions will not be successful without left lateral uterine displacement. Similarly, while doing chest compressions, defibrillation, and other critical resuscitation procedures, appropriate personnel should concurrently be preparing for and, if necessary, performing a perimortem cesarean delivery.

#### Points to keep in mind

- Whenever cardiac arrest is identified, provide high-quality CPR along with the defibrillation as per the indication.
- While calling the EMS never forget to tell that the patient is pregnant so that the team can arrange a multidisciplinary expert who can perform an emergency Perimortem C-section as soon as possible.
- The maternal cardiac arrest team should rule out pregnancy-related outcomes. Always find out the causes before any actions [6].
- Remember shock from the defibrillator as well as the pressure from the chest compressions will not harm the fetus.
- Recall that two persons need help when a pregnant mother is in cardiac arrest. Perform airway management, and intubation only with an expert as this part is very difficult. Priority should be given to preventing hypoxia by prompt oxygenation and airway management with a goal of 100% oxygen delivery. Be vigilant to avoid excess ventilation.
- While giving shocks we should detach the fetal monitors as it will interact with the result and always provide continuous lateral uterine displacement.
- If there is no return of spontaneous circulation immediate baby mortem cesarean delivery should be performed.
- Fetal monitoring should not be prioritized as it interferes with resuscitation. But fetal monitoring should be done in those cases where the mother is comatose and receiving targeted temperature management [6].

#### Conclusion

Cardiac arrest during pregnancy is very difficult to manage as it cost lives. This review has included the most important



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concerned area to concentrate on during the care which helps for the survival of both mother and child. There are concerning areas which we should concentrate on in this regard. Prompt action by the multidisciplinary team aid's good chance of survival of both mother and child.

### Conflict of Interest

All authors declared no conflicts of interest.

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## A Study to Assess the Impact of Post COVID Rehabilitative Exercises on Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Post COVID 19 Patients

**Rinu David<sup>1\*</sup>, Shaly Joseph Pullan<sup>1</sup>, Sisira Suresh O<sup>2</sup>, Siya Joy<sup>2</sup>, Signa Paulson<sup>2</sup>, Rosy Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Sneha Simmon<sup>2</sup>**

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### Abstract

This study aimed to assess the impact of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on the physical and mental well-being of patients who have completed a rehabilitation program consisting of aerobic exercises, resistance training, and breathing exercises. The study used a quantitative research approach, data was collected from a sample of male and female patients aged 18 years and above.

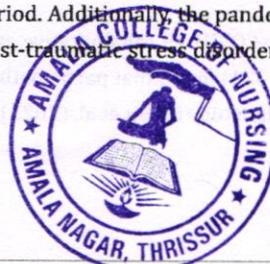
Quantitative data analysis revealed significant improvements in physical and mental well-being scores after completing the rehabilitation program. Additionally, the study found that certain demographic factors such as age and gender may impact the effectiveness of the rehabilitation programs. Study also identified several themes related to participants' experiences with the rehabilitation program, including increased motivation and confidence, improved sleep, and enhanced overall well-being.

Overall, this study provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises in addressing the long-term physical and mental health complications many patients experience after recovering from COVID-19. The findings of this study could inform the development of more effective rehabilitation programs for post-COVID-19 patients and contribute to the ongoing effort to improve the care and management of individuals recovering from COVID-19.

**Keywords:** COVID 19; Post COVID 19 syndrome; Rehabilitative exercises; Physical well-being; Mental well-being

### Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the physical and mental health of individuals worldwide. While many have been fortunate to recover from the virus, there is a growing concern for the long-term physical and mental health complications that some individuals may experience post-recovery [1]. Studies have shown that post-COVID-19 patients may experience symptoms such as fatigue, breathlessness, and reduced physical function for an extended period. Additionally, the pandemic's mental health toll cannot be overlooked, as individuals may experience anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) due to the pandemic's effects [2].



*Rinu David*

Rehabilitative exercises have been identified as a potential solution for addressing the physical and mental health complications of post-COVID-19 patients. Rehabilitation programs consisting of aerobic exercises, resistance training, and breathing exercises have shown promise in improving physical function and reducing symptoms in post-COVID-19 patients [3]. However, the effectiveness of such programs needs to be studied further, particularly in the long term.

Previous studies have highlighted the importance of exercise in improving physical and mental health outcomes in post-COVID-19 patients. However, few studies have assessed the effectiveness of a comprehensive rehabilitation program that includes different types of exercise and interventions.

This study aims to assess the impact of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on the physical and mental well-being of patients who have completed a rehabilitation program consisting of aerobic exercises, resistance training, and breathing exercises. A quantitative approach to data analysis will be used, with data collected from a sample of male and female patients aged 18 years and above.

The study hypothesizes that the rehabilitative exercises will lead to significant improvements in physical and mental well-being scores, as measured through standardized assessments. Additionally, the study aims to identify demographic factors such as age and gender that may impact the effectiveness of the rehabilitation program.

This study's findings could inform the development of more effective rehabilitation programs for post-COVID-19 patients and contribute to the ongoing effort to improve the care and management of individuals recovering from COVID-19. With the growing number of post-COVID-19 patients worldwide, addressing the physical and mental health complications of this population is crucial for ensuring optimal health outcomes.

## Objectives

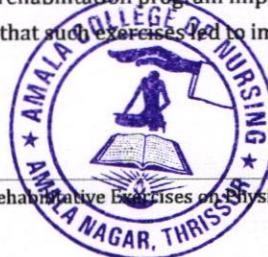
1. Assess the physical health and mental health of post COVID 19 subjects.
2. Assess the effectiveness of post COVID rehabilitative exercises on physical wellbeing of post COVID 19 subjects.
3. Assess the effectiveness of post COVID rehabilitative exercises on mental wellbeing of post COVID 19 subjects.
4. Find out correlation between physical wellbeing and mental wellbeing among post COVID 19 subjects.
5. Find out association of physical wellbeing and mental wellbeing among post COVID 19 subjects with selected demographic variables.

## Review of Literature

**COVID-19 Rehabilitation Programs:** Several studies have highlighted the importance of rehabilitation programs for COVID-19 patients, particularly those who have experienced severe or critical illness. Such programs typically consist of a combination of aerobic exercises, resistance training, and breathing exercises to address the physical and mental health complications associated with COVID-19 [2].

**Effects on Physical Health:** The impact of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on physical health has been widely studied. A systematic review by Lau et al. (2021) found that such exercises led to improvements in respiratory function, exercise capacity, and muscle strength [4]. Another study by Wang et al. (2021) found that patients who participated in a rehabilitation program had better physical functioning and mobility compared to those who did not.

**Effects on Mental Health:** Post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises have also been shown to have a positive impact on mental health outcomes. A study by Li et al. (2021) found that participating in a rehabilitation program improved anxiety and depression symptoms in COVID-19 patients [5]. Another study by Hu et al. (2021) found that such exercises led to improvements in quality of life and overall mental well-being [6].



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**Demographic Factors:** Several studies have explored the impact of demographic factors on the effectiveness of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises. For example, a study by Liu et al. (2021) found that older patients and those with pre-existing medical conditions may require more tailored rehabilitation programs to achieve optimal outcomes [7]. Additionally, male patients may experience greater improvements in respiratory function compared to female patients (Simpson et al., 2021) [8].

**Patient Experiences:** Qualitative studies have explored patients' experiences with post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises. For example, a study by Thomas et al. (2021) found that patients reported increased motivation and confidence as a result of participating in such exercises. Another study by Li et al. (2021) found that patients reported improved sleep and overall well-being after completing a rehabilitation program [9].

## Materials and Method

**Research Approach:** A quantitative research approach was used.

**Research design:** One group pre-test post-test pre experimental research design was adopted for this study.

**Sampling:** The non probability convenient sampling.

**Sample size:** 100 Post COVID 19 patients.

**Setting:** Post COVID 19 patients residing in different districts of Kerala with no current COVID 19 infection.

**Independent variable:** Post COVID rehabilitative exercise regimen given to the group.

**Dependent variable:** physical and mental wellbeing of post COVID patients

### Inclusion criteria

- Nurses who tested COVID positive during last one year.
- Subjects available at the time of data collection.
- Subjects willing to participate in the study.
- Subjects who can read and understand English and Malayalam.
- Subjects between age group below 60 years.
- Subjects in both Genders.

### Exclusion criteria

- Subjects who are under going treatment for any other psychiatric disorders/severe respiratory illness.
- Subjects who are pregnant.
- Subjects who are presently COVID19positive.
- Subjects who are not willing to participate.

### Tool

**Tool 1:** Socio demographic data sheet.

**Tool 2:** Mental health inventory-18.

**Tool 3:** Physical Health Questionnaire.

### Data collection procedure

Data collection was done through Google forms in samples who met the inclusion criteria. Pre-test data was collected using tool 1, tool 2 and tool 3. The structured teaching programme was administered via You Tube video after the pre-test. After one month the effectiveness of the programme was assessed using same tool.



### Data analysis

The data were analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics to determine the impact of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on the physical and mental well-being of post-COVID-19 patients.

Descriptive statistics were used to summarize the data collected from the study. Measures of central tendency, such as means and medians, were calculated to describe the distribution of the data. Measures of variability, such as standard deviations and ranges, were also calculated to describe the spread of the data.

Inferential statistics were used to test the hypotheses of the study. The primary hypothesis of the study is that post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises will improve the physical and mental well-being of post-COVID-19 patients. This hypothesis was tested using Paired t-test.

Furthermore, the study analyses the relationship between physical and mental well-being outcomes and various patient characteristics such as age, gender, religion, occupation, socio-economic status etc.

Overall, the data analysis of this study provides valuable insights into the impact of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on the physical and mental well-being of post-COVID-19 patients and informs future clinical practice for the rehabilitation of post-COVID-19 patients.

### Result

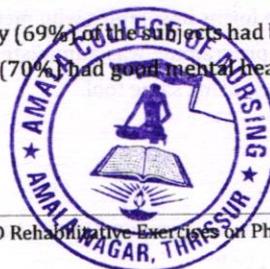
#### Section A: Distribution of Subjects According to Demographic Variables

The characteristics of the study population were as follows:

- Majority (66%) of the subjects studied were in the age group of 18-28 years.
- More than half of them were females (66%).
- Most of them (65%) belonged to Christian community.
- Regarding to marital status, majority(68%) were unmarried.
- Majority of the study participants (63%) were graduates.
- Most of the study subjects (37%) were working under private sector.
- Majority of the participants (84%) had nuclear families.
- A large proportion (79%) were from panchayath area.
- Majority of the study subjects (76%) belongs to APL category.
- Regarding dietary habit, most of them (84%) are on mixed diet.
- 7 of the study subjects were admitted in hospital during COVID 19 infection.
- Majority of the subjects (72) received information regarding COVID 19 from social media.
- Most of the subjects (90) received 2 doses of COVID 19 vaccination
- Majority of the subjects (68%) were not aware about post-COVID 19 rehabilitative exercises.
- About 8% of the study subjects are having co-morbidities, among which 5 of them have DM.

#### Section B: Classification of Subjects Based on Mental Health Inventory and Physical Health Inventories Score Before and after Administration of Post Covid Rehabilitative Exercises

Among 100 samples selected for the study, in pre-test majority (69%) of the subjects had better mental health, 20% had good mental health and 11% had poor mental health. In post-test, majority (70%) had good mental health, 26% had better mental health and 4% had poor mental health.



With respect to pre-test level of physical health, majority (47%) had a better physical health, 45% good physical health and 8% poor physical health. Regarding post-test physical health status 58% had good physical health, 36% had better physical health and 6% had poor physical health.

#### Section C: Analysis of Effectiveness of Post Covid Rehabilitative Exercises on Mental Health of Subjects

Mental health inventory score	Mean	SD	't' value	P value
Pre-test	63.9517	2.4903	7.956	0.00001
Post-test	66.3230	2.1812		

**Table 1:** Mean, standard deviation and 't' value of pre-test and post-test mental inventory scores of subjects.

Table 1 depicts that mean post-test mental health inventory score was significantly higher than the mean pre-test mental health inventory score. The calculated 't' value 7.956 is and p value is <0.00001, hence the result is significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### Section D: Analysis of Effectiveness of Post Covid Rehabilitative Exercises on Physical Wellbeing of Subjects

Mental health inventory score	Mean	SD	't' value	P value
Pre-test	4.4046	1.5128	1.202	0.232
Post-test	4.6999	1.4456		

**Table 2:** Mean, standard deviation and 't' value of pre-test and post-test physical health scores of subjects.

Table 2 depicts that mean post-test physical health inventory score was higher than the mean pre-test health physical inventory score. The calculates 't' value is 1.202 and p value is 0.232 hence, the result is not significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### Section E: Analysis of Correlation among Mental Wellbeing and Physical Wellbeing

Variables	Mean	Pearson's Correlation Coefficient (r)	P value
Mental wellbeing	63.9517	0.113	0.265
Physical Wellbeing	4.4046		

**Table 3:** Correlation of mean mental wellbeing score with physical wellbeing score of subjects.

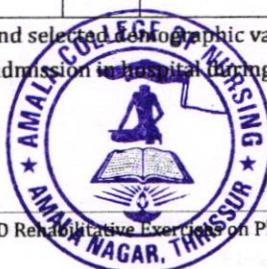
Table 3 reveals that Pearson's correlation coefficient value of mental wellbeing with physical wellbeing among post COVID-19 patients is 0.113 and p value is 0.265. Hence there is a positive correlation between mental wellbeing and physical wellbeing of post COVID-19 patients which is not statistically significant.



Section F: Association of Subjects According to Pre-Test Mental Wellbeing and Selected Demographic Variables

Sl. No	Demographic variables	Mental Well-being			Chi-square	P value	Significance
		Good	Better	Poor			
1.	<b>Age in year</b>				9.825	0.132	NS
	18-28	9	51	6			
	29-38	6	8	3			
	39-48	1	6	1			
	49-58	4	4	1			
2.	<b>Sex</b>				7.309	0.026	S
	Male	9	18	7			
	Female	11	51	4			
3.	<b>Marital status</b>				13.277	0.001	S
	Married	9	15	8			
	Unmarried	11	54	3			
4.	<b>Education</b>				17.934	0.001	S
	High School	1	3	1			
	Higher Secondary	8	1	3			
	Graduate and above	11	45	7			
5.	<b>Area of residence</b>				15.283	0.004	S
	Panchayth	14	60	5			
	Municipality	5	7	3			
	Corporation	1	2	3			
6.	<b>Socio-economic status</b>				7.80	0.020	S
	APL	18	53	5			
	BPL	2	16	6			
7.	<b>Admission in hospital during COVID 19</b>				28.375	0.00001	S
	Yes	1	1	5			
	No	19	68	6			
8.	<b>Vaccination status</b>				4.228	0.120	NS
	Second dose	18	64	8			
	Booster dose	2	5	3			
9.	<b>Type of family</b>						NS
	Joint family						
	Extended Family						
	Nuclear Family						

**Table 4:** Association between Pre-test Mental Wellbeing and selected demographic variables such as age, sex, marital status, education, area of residence, socio-economic status, admission in hospital during COVID 19 and vaccination status.

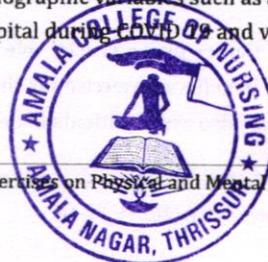


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Section G: Association of Subjects According to Pre-Test Physical Wellbeing and Selected Demographic Variables

Sl. No	Demographic variables	Mental Well-being			Chi-square	P value	Significance
		Good	Better	Poor			
1.	<b>Age in year</b>				6.416	0.372	NS
	18-28	30	32	4			
	29-38	7	8	2			
	39-48	6	1	1			
	49-58	2	6	1			
2.	<b>Sex</b>				1.607	0.447	NS
	Male	18	13	3			
	Female	27	34	5			
3.	<b>Marital status</b>				3.031	0.219	NS
	Married	18	11	3			
	Unmarried	27	36	5			
4.	<b>Education</b>				4.781	0.310	NS
	High School	2	2	1			
	Higher Secondary	11	17	4			
	Graduate and above	32	28	3			
5.	<b>Area of residence</b>				6.88	0.142	NS
	Panchayth	36	39	4			
	Municipality	7	6	2			
	Corporation	2	2	2			
6.	<b>Socio-economic status</b>				7.087	0.029	S
	APL	36	37	3			
	BPL	9	10	5			
7.	<b>Admission in hospital during COVID 19</b>				41.144	0.0001	S
	Yes	1	1	5			
	No	44	46	3			
8.	<b>Vaccination status</b>				2.178	0.337	NS
	Second dose	41	43	6			
	Booster dose	4	4	2			
9.	<b>Type of family</b>				16.604	0.002	S
	Joint family	4	5	3			
	Extended Family	1	1	2			
	Nuclear Family	40	41	2			

**Table 5:** Association between Pre-test Physical Wellbeing and selected demographic variables such as age, sex, marital status, education, area of residence, socio-economic status, admission in hospital during COVID-19 and vaccination status.



## Discussion

The present study aimed to assess the effectiveness of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on the mental and physical well-being of post-COVID-19 patients in the districts of Kerala. The study had five objectives, including assessing the physical and mental health of post-COVID-19 subjects, identifying the effectiveness of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on physical and mental well-being, finding out the correlation between physical and mental well-being among post-COVID-19 subjects, and finding out the association of physical and mental well-being with selected demographic variables.

The study found that most of the participants were in the age group of 18-28 years, female, Christian, unmarried, graduates, working in the private sector, and from a nuclear family. Most of them were from a panchayath area and belonged to the APL category. In terms of dietary habits, most of them were on a mixed diet. The study also found that the majority of the participants did not have an awareness of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises.

Based on the results presented, the study found that post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises were effective in improving the mental well-being of post-COVID-19 patients. However, the study found only a slight improvement in physical well-being. When compared with the literature review, the finding on the positive effect of rehabilitative exercises on mental well-being is consistent with previous studies. For instance, a study by Taneja et al. (2021) found that exercise-based rehabilitation programs had positive effects on the psychological well-being of post-COVID-19 patients [10]. Similarly, a study by Grabowski et al. (2021) found that physical therapy interventions improved physical function and quality of life among COVID-19 survivors [11].

However, the finding of a slight improvement in physical well-being is not consistent with some previous studies. A systematic review by Huang et al. (2021) found that rehabilitation interventions, including exercise-based interventions, had significant effects on improving physical function among COVID-19 survivors [12].

One possible explanation for the discrepancy between the present study and previous studies is the differences in the sample characteristics and interventions used in the studies. For instance, the present study was conducted among post-COVID-19 patients in districts of Kerala, was limited to a time period of one month and it was administered in online mode, while some of the previous studies were conducted in other regions or countries. Moreover, the type, duration, and intensity of rehabilitative exercises used in the present study may have been different from those used in other studies.

The study also found a significant correlation between mental and physical well-being among post-COVID-19 patients. However, the association of mental and physical well-being with selected demographic variables was not significant.

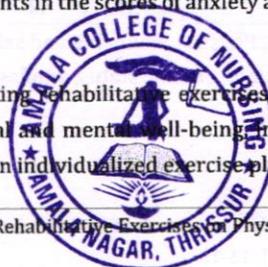
Overall, the study implies that post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises are effective in improving the mental well-being of post-COVID-19 patients, but their effectiveness in improving physical well-being needs further investigation. The study also highlights the need for creating awareness about post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises among the general public. The study's limitations include small sample size and limited geographical scope. The study recommends further research with larger sample sizes and wider geographical coverage.

## Conclusion

The study investigated the effectiveness of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises on the physical and mental well-being of post-COVID-19 patients in the districts of Kerala. The study found that the rehabilitative exercises were effective in improving the mental well-being of the patients, as evidenced by significant improvements in the scores of anxiety and depression scales. However, the study found only slight improvement in physical well-being.

As healthcare providers, nurses play a crucial role in promoting rehabilitative exercises for post-COVID-19 patients. Nurses can educate patients about the benefits of exercise for their physical and mental well-being, including improved lung function, muscle strength, and mood. They can also assist patients in developing an individualized exercise plan based on their specific needs and abilities.

Citation: Rinu David, et al. "A Study to Assess the Impact of Post COVID Rehabilitative Exercises on Physical and Mental Wellbeing of Post COVID 19 Patients". *Medicon Medical Sciences* 5.6 (2023): 11-19.



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ities, and monitor their progress over time. Nurses can collaborate with other healthcare professionals, such as physical therapists, to ensure that patients receive appropriate exercise interventions and are safe during their exercise routines. In addition, nurses can provide emotional support to patients who may be struggling with anxiety, depression, or fear related to their recovery process. By promoting and supporting post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises, nurses can help patients to achieve optimal physical and mental health outcomes.

Overall, the study provides important insights into the potential benefits of post-COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises in improving the mental well-being of patients, highlighting the need for healthcare professionals to incorporate such exercises as part of the rehabilitation program. The findings of this study contribute to the growing body of research on the importance of rehabilitative exercises for post-COVID-19 patients, particularly in improving their mental well-being. However, further research is needed to explore the optimal types, duration, and intensity of rehabilitative exercises that can improve physical well-being among post-COVID-19 patients. Healthcare providers and policymakers can use the results of this study to design effective rehabilitative programs for post-COVID-19 patients, considering the importance of mental health in the overall recovery process.

### Nursing implications

The findings of the study are relevant to nursing field especially in the community area.

### Nursing Service

1. The nurses, especially those who are working in the community field can utilize the knowledge regarding post COVID-19 rehabilitative exercises in educating the post COVID-19 individuals and family members.

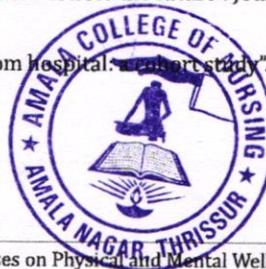
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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### Effectiveness of Motivational techniques on learning skills among first year B.Sc. nursing students in a selected College of nursing, Thrissur

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#### ABSTRACT:

Motivational techniques are a driving force that impels one to enforce. The aim of the study is to assess the effectiveness of motivational techniques on learning skills among first year B.Sc nursing students in a selected college of nursing, Thrissur. The objectives of the study is to assess the pretest level of learning skills, posttest level of learning skills among the first year B.Sc nursing students and also to determine the effectiveness of motivational techniques on learning skills and to identify the association between learning skills among the first year B.Sc nursing students and selected demographic variables. Forty seven students of the first year students were selected from the Snehodaya college of nursing, Vallakkunnu. Samples are selected through convenient sampling techniques. The research design selected for study was pre experimental design. Data was collected by using structured questionnaire before the interventional programme. Motivational techniques were given for 12 days and post test was conducted. After the completion of the study it was revealed that 8.5% of first year BSc nursing students have excellent learning skills in pretest and 74.4% have excellent learning skills in post test. 66% have good learning skills in pretest and 25.5 % in post test. 25.5% have average learning skills in pre test and none of them have average learning skill in post test. The mean post test score (71.67) is higher than mean pre test score (57.56). The t test showed improved coping ( $t=16.10$ ,  $t_{46}=2.02$ ) at  $p<0.05$ . Among the selected demographic variable, type of school studied ( $\chi^2=25.505$ ), was associated with learning skill among first year BSc nursing students. For the other variables there is no association. It was found that after the administration of motivational techniques there was marked improvement in the learning skill among first year BSc nursing students.<sup>3</sup>

**KEYWORDS:** Effectiveness; motivational techniques; learning skills; first year BSc nursing students.

#### INTRODUCTION:

Learning is the life long, dynamic mental process by which individual acquires new knowledge or skills and alters their thoughts, feelings, attitudes and actions. The rate of learning varies for different individuals and it is not limited to any age, sex, race or culture. Human beings differ because they learn and the mechanism of learning differs from person to person. The learner uses different mechanism or techniques to learn new responses and behaviour which are essential for the

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survival of the person. People learn through various modes such as association, observation, and learning and in sight. However drill and practice and imitation are also important procedures of learning. Everyone gets encouragement as learners right from infancy to learn new behaviour. Pupils differ in their aptitude, attitude, seriousness and interests for acquiring knowledge. Some pupils set their educational goals purposefully high but there are some students with a negative attitude towards work and those lack enthusiasm. Those students with aptitudes and interest push themselves strongly towards other endeavours if they have maturity, sense, direction and motivation they will succeed.<sup>12</sup>

#### NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:

Nursing education is a professional education which is consciously and systematically planned and implemented through instructions and discipline and aims the harmonious development of the physical, intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual and aesthetics power or abilities of the students in order to render professional nursing care to people of all ages, in all phases of health and illnesses, on a variety of setting, in the best or highest possible manner.<sup>13</sup> As the students are living in a materialistic and consumer driven society under the influences of media, it is very difficult to make adjustment especially in the professional education like nursing, lack of motivation, interest, critical thinking, hard work etc. leads to poor academic performance and maladaptation in the clinical area.<sup>2</sup> Worg Q H (2014) conducted a study to assess learning motivation in nursing students of China. The result shows that motivation interacts positively and affects nursing students learning process.<sup>1</sup> Hence there is a need for conducting a study regarding motivational techniques. Adolescent period is a period of stress and strain. The new subjects in nursing education enhance the stress and strain. The multiple changes occurring in adolescent include absenteeism, academic failure and behavioural problems.

In nursing education, lots of innovations are taking place in the area of teaching and learning. In variably, there innovations lead to intellectual development, personal development and cause development.

So that the researchers think, there is a need of study regarding some innovating to motivate nursing students to improve their learning skills and there by develop confidence and good attitude towards the nursing profession.

#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

A study to assess the effectiveness of motivational techniques on learning skills among first year BSc nursing students in a selected College of nursing, Thrissur.

#### OBJECTIVES:

1. Assess the pre-test level of learning skills among first year BSc nursing students.
2. Assess the post test level of learning skills among first year BSc nursing students.
3. Determine the effectiveness of motivational techniques on learning skills among first year BSc nursing students.
4. Identify the association between learning skills among first year BSc nursing students and selected demographic variables.

#### OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS:

##### 1. Assess:

In this study assessment refers to the evaluation of the motivational techniques on learning skills among the first year BSc nursing students as measured by modified rating scale.

##### 2. Effectiveness:

In this study effectiveness refers to the extent of variation in post test score obtained by first year BSc nursing students on learning skills after the administration of motivational techniques.

##### 3. Motivational techniques:

In this study motivational technique refers to the structured interventional programme designed by the investigator intended to improve the learning skills and improve confidence of first year BSc nursing students through lecturing and demonstration.

##### 4. Learning Skills:

In this study learning skills are an array of skills which tackle the process of organizing and taking new information and the ability to reflect upon the performance.

##### 5. First year BSc nursing students:

In this study first year BSc nursing students refers to students undergoing first year BSc nursing programme in a selected college of nursing, Thrissur.

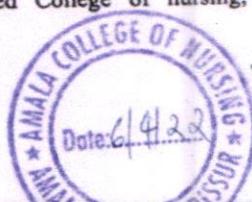
#### ASSUMPTIONS:

1. First year BSc nursing students may have some learning skills.
2. Motivational techniques may improve the learning skills among first year BSc nursing students.

#### HYPOTHESIS:

H<sub>1</sub>: There will be a significant difference between the pre-test post-test levels of learning skills among first year BSc nursing students.

H<sub>2</sub>: There will be a significant association between learning skills among first year BSc nursing students and selected demographic variables.



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## REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

The review of this study has been organised and presented under the following headings:

1. Interventional programme to improve learning skill.
2. Problems related to learning.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS:

### Research approach:

Quantitative approach

### Research design:

Pre-experimental one group pre test post test design

### Variables:

- Dependent variables

Learning skills.

- Independent variable

Motivational techniques.

### Setting of the study:

Snehodaya College of nursing.

### Population:

First year BSc nursing students.

### Sample:

First year BSc nursing students of Snehodaya College of nursing.

### Sample size:

47 first year BSc nursing students.

### Sampling technique:

Convenient sampling technique.

### Sampling criteria:

#### Inclusion criteria:

First year BSc nursing students studying in Snehodaya College of nursing, students who are available at the time of the data collection.

#### Exclusion criteria:

Students who are not willing to participate in study.

### Tool/Instruments:

#### Section A:

The demographic proforma of first year BSc nursing students consist of 13 items. The respondents were requested to place a tick mark against the appropriate boxes.

#### Section B:

Likerts modified learning skill self assessment scale consists of 28 items with 3 alternative response for

assessing the learning skill among First year BSc nursing students.

### Scoring methods:

In learning skill self assessment scale, the positive questions are given with score 3 to often, 2 for sometimes and 1 for never. In negative questions score 3 for never, 2 for sometimes and 1 for often. The score should be calculated according to the student preferences and obtain by score.

### Mark distribution:

Excellent learning skills - >80%  
Good learning skills - 65% - 75%  
Average learning skills - 40% - 64%  
Poor learning skills - <40%

### Pilot study:

The pilot study was conducted to the second year BSc nursing students of Snehodaya College of nursing .. 5 Samples of second year students were selected using convenient sampling technique. Pilot study reveals that motivational technique and tool were found to be clear and understandable and methodology proposed that found to be feasible to conduct the study. The reliability of the tool was assessed using split half method, Karl Pearson's correlation co-efficient formula was used to find the correlation and reliability of the tool was 0.7.

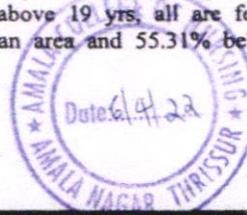
### Main study:

The permission for conducting the study was obtained from the principal of Snehodaya College of nursing Vallakkunnu. The data collected from first year BSc nursing students. After taking consent pretest was conducted by providing a structured questionnaire before the interventional programme, and the post test was conducted after 12 days from the day of pre test. The interventions are given for 30 minutes. In first session pretest, time planning are provided. In second session study tips, positive thoughts are given. On third session relaxation techniques like yoga, deep breathing exercises are given. On fourth session guided imagery, yoga, deep breathing exercises and outdoor games are provided. On fifth session onwards guided imagery, relaxation techniques like yoga, deep breathing exercises and outdoor games like spoon racing, badminton, ball passing are provided. On the twelfth day after the interventions post test was conducted. The data was analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

### SECTION I: Distribution of first year BSc nursing students according to demographic characteristics:

Among 47 samples, 8.51% selected population belongs to 18 yrs, 72.34% belongs to 19 yrs and 19.14% belongs to above 19 yrs, all are females, 44.68% belongs to urban area and 55.31% belongs to rural area, 10.65%



belongs to Malayalam medium, and 89.36% belongs to English medium of education.

Among 47 samples 51.06% belongs to pre degree as education of parents, 23.40% belongs to graduate, 10.63% belongs to school education, 8.51% belongs to diploma, 4.25% belongs to post graduates and 2.12% belongs to any other as education of parents, 17.02% belongs to below 10000 Rs monthly income, 25.53% belongs between Rs 10001-20000, 25.53% belongs to Rs 20001-30000, 8.5% belongs to Rs 30001-40000 and 23.40% belongs to above Rs 40000 monthly income, 80.85% belongs to aided school, 8.51% belongs to unaided school and 10.63% belongs to government school, 76.59% belongs to book as best source of information, 14.89% belongs to lecturer and 8.5% belongs to internet as best source of information. Among 47 samples, 19.14% belongs to more than 4 hrs duration of study, 51.06% 3hrs, 23.40% 2 hours, 6.38% 1hr, 38.29% belongs to learning by reading, 4.25% belongs to learning by writing, 12.76% belongs to learning by making notes and 44.68% belongs to using all the above study method.

Among 47 samples no one has nursing foundation and nutrition as difficult subject, 2.12% have anatomy, 8.51% have physiology, 53.19% have microbiology, 6.38% have biochemistry and 29.78% have psychology as most difficult subject. Among 47 samples no one has psychology and biochemistry as easy subject, 21.27% have nursing foundation, 12.76% have anatomy, 6.38% have physiology, 2.12% have microbiology, and 57.44% have nutrition as most easy subject, 57.44% belongs to night time study and 42.56% belongs to day time study.

**SECTION II: Distribution of first year BSc nursing students based on learning skills before and after motivational techniques:**

After the completion of the study it was revealed that 8.5% of first year BSc nursing students have excellent learning skills in pre test and 74.4% have excellent learning skills in post test. 66% have good learning skills in pre test and 25.5 % in post test. 25.5% have average learning skills in pre test and none of them have average learning skill in post test. None of them have poor learning skills in pre test and post test.

**Table 1: Distribution of first year BSc nursing students based on learning skill before and after motivational technique N=47**

Grade of learning skill	Pre test		Post test	
	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Excellent (67-84)	4	8.5	35	74.4
Good (55-66)	31	66	12	25.5
Average (34-54)	12	25.5	0	0
Poor (<34)	0	0	0	0

**Table 2: Difference in mean learning skill of first year BSc nursing students before and after motivational technique N=47**

Score of learning skills	Mean	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t value	Inference
Pre test	57.56		8.94		
		14.11		16.10	Significant
Post test	71.67		6.509		

t<sub>46</sub> = 2.02 P<0.05

**SECTION III: Effect of motivational techniques among first year BSc nursing students.**

The computed t value 16.10 is greater than table value (2.02) and it is significant at 0.05 levels. So the research hypothesis is accepted. Therefore it can be inferred that the motivational technique is effective to improve the learning skill among first year BSc students.<sup>11</sup>

**SECTION IV: Association between learning skills and selected demographic variables**

There is significant association between learning skill among first year BSc nursing students with one of the selected demographic variable that is type of school studied ( $\chi^2=25.505$ ), so for this variable null hypothesis is rejected and research hypothesis is accepted. For the other variables where there is no association with learning skills among first year BSc nursing students that is age, area of residence, education of parents, monthly income of parents, time of day like to study, medium of education till 10<sup>th</sup> standard, method preferred for study,

duration of the study in day, best source of information for study. For these variables the null hypothesis was accepted and research hypothesis was rejected.<sup>11</sup>

**Table 3: Association between learning skills of first year BSc nursing students and selected demographic variables N=47**

Demographic variables	X <sup>2</sup> value	df	P value
Age	2.307	4	9.49
Area of residence	1.805	2	5.99
Type of school studied	25.505	4	9.49*
Education of parents	8.404	10	18.31
Monthly income of parents	10.94	8	15.51
Time of day like to study	5.0358	2	5.99
Medium of education till 10 <sup>th</sup> standard	0.178	2	5.99
Method preferred for study	8.3657	6	12.599
Duration of the study in day	8.44	6	12.59
Best source of information for study	7.237	4	9.49

P<0.05=\*significant



### CONCLUSION:

The present study assessed the effectiveness of motivational techniques on learning skills of first year BSc nursing students. Comparing to pre test, 74.4% has excellent learning skills and 25.5% have good learning skills in post test. The association between learning skill and demographic variables are assessed by chi-square test and in result there is association between types of school studied and learning skills of students so for this variable research hypothesis is accepted and null hypothesis is rejected and for other variables null hypothesis is accepted and research hypothesis is rejected. This study proved that motivational techniques have effectiveness on learning skills.

### NURSING IMPLICATIONS:

The findings of the study have implications in the field of nursing practice, nursing education, and nursing research.

#### Nursing practice:

Motivational techniques are effective to learn the communication skills and clinical skills of nursing students. Motivational techniques promote interest, confidence and improve performance skill thereby increase the quality of care.

#### Nursing education:

Nursing teachers should emphasize the importance of awareness of learning skills to the students. Motivational techniques are very much effective to improve the academic performance of nursing students. It develops better understanding, motivation, positive attitude and better achievement in the examination.

#### Nursing administration:

It has been suggested that in service education on motivational techniques can be conducted to nurse educators and ward incharges regarding the effectiveness of motivational skills. The administrator can initiate the nurse in conducting and participating in various educational programmes. It helps to improve the clinical skills and learning skills of the nurses to improve the professional standards.

#### Nursing research:

The study throws light on effectiveness of motivational techniques and academic performance. There is a lot of scope for exploration in this area. There is a need to carry out more researches on effectiveness of motivational techniques in the current scenario. In nursing education, other professional education and in general education. Nurses should initiate to conduct the research in motivational techniques regarding learning skill.

### LIMITATION:

1. The extraneous variables like attitude, intelligence, memory, motivation by the participants were different for each student but it is not considered on this study.
2. Mental state of the participants during study is different.
3. Small sample size and single setting restricted the generalization of the study.
4. The available time given was limited.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Keeping in the view the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made:

1. The study can be done in different settings.
2. Further study could be conducted by giving maximum time for intervention.
3. A similar study can be conducted in different curriculum other than nursing.
4. The study can be replicated in the larger samples

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