

An Exploratory Study to Assess the Awareness about Interpathy among the Doctors in Selected Hospitals of Metropolitan City

Dr. Sangeeta S Bhujbal

Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, B. J. Govt. Medical College & Sassoon General Hospital, Pune

Abstract: *The descriptive exploratory non experimental study was conducted in two hospitals Private and Public sector in Pune City to assess the awareness of doctors about interpathy. The samples size was 60 and random sampling method was used. Analysis of data related to awareness of Doctors about interpathy was arbitrarily graded based on the calculated frequency percentage; the obtained scores were grouped into four categories i.e. very good, good, and average and below average. It was found that 45 % (27) doctors had good awareness score about interpathy while only 8% (five) doctors had below average score regarding awareness about interpathy. The mean awareness score regarding awareness about interpathy was 5.15. It was also found that 76% (24) samples agreed that Interpathy would be a major contribution to health care in future. 72% (43) samples said that there is a need to search for alternatives in some diseases, while 68% (32) doctors said that there is a need of Interpathy in modern medicine. Association between the knowledge score and Gender was significant at 0.001 level of significance. Female's awareness score was higher than the Male. No significant association was seen between awareness score and age.*

Keywords: Interpathy-Blend of empathy and awareness of cultural diversity, it strengthens an individual's immune system and heals thoroughly leading to long lasting effect. CAM-Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Multidisciplinary, AYUSH, Globalization era, Awareness

1. Introduction

India is the only country in the world which has got different systems of medicine functional for centuries. There is a lot of hue and cry about the ugly face of modern medicine in this era of globalization¹. As news item in a leading newspaper has quoted the unethical clinical trials conducted in the country by multinational companies¹. The cost is another concern. As a result of all these factors, people are in search of alternatives. The failures of modern medicine in some diseases have made it mandatory to search for alternatives.

Need of the study

There is a need to find safer, cheaper, and effective treatment options for established treatments in modern medicine. We have Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha as well as Homeopathy (AYUSH). The ground reality is that people do use medicines from different pathies. The client does not care which medicine (pathy) has cured it². The lay people have faith in result-oriented medicine. Researcher wants to know about the awareness of the doctors regarding interpathy as people opt for this treatment and it has become today's need³. Different systems of medicine need to be involved in patient care. Doctors also need to guide the limitations of different pathies. The ultimate aim is to cure the patient or bring comfort to him in some conditions like cancer. Hence researcher developed an interest to find the awareness of the doctors from different pathies that are needed in treating the patient.

Title of the study

"An exploratory Study to assess the Awareness about Interpathy among the doctors in selected hospitals of Pune City".

Objectives of the study

- To assess the awareness about interpathy among the doctors
- To determine the association between the findings and the demographic data.

2. Review of Literature

Nagoba B. S. et. al. (2013) In the study on Interpathy Research in Healthcare System. Does it Really Help? Says that the Ayurveda is likely to yield greater success in treating chronic ailments, which are otherwise very difficult to treat by drugs of modern medicine. It is the responsibility of researchers to create the wealth of knowledge to improve healthcare of people by promoting interpathy interaction and original research in the Indian and other systems of medicine. It is sure that ramification with an aim to achieve interdisciplinary research will create better understanding between different systems of medicine. Systematic reviews, randomized clinical trials, observational studies, case control studies, etc. on molecules of other systems of medicine will help to achieve more concrete evidence to confirm the experience of clinical effects claimed by other pathies and surely help to see and to understand the world of illness differently leading to more effective healthcare practices. Drawing the attention of healthcare professionals from different pathies and their involvement from within to this important issue of the interpathy/multidisciplinary healthcare research would be a major contribution to healthcare in near future.⁽²⁾

The aim of medicine is to prevent illness/diseases, promote health, and increase immunity and to cure diseases. For a sick person suffering from disease /illness, what matters is a relief from illness and not the pathy, which cured his

illness/disease. The patient does not care which medicine (pathy) has cured it. The lay people have faith in result-oriented medicine; whether it is allopathic, Ayurveda, homeopathic or unani medicine matters little for them.

A study on “Efficacy of selected complimentary & alternative medicine interventions for chronic pain” by Gabriel Tan & et al (2007) put forth that Based on the guidelines of the Clinical Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association, findings of their indicate that some CAM modalities have a solid track record of efficacy, whereas others are promising but require additional research. They studied that the different CAM modalities show different levels of efficacy but one modality may work for one pain condition but not others. ⁽³⁾

3. Research Methodology

Research Approach: Exploratory Descriptive study.

Research design: The design selected is a non-experimental descriptive design.

Variables: The independent variable is interpathy and the dependent variable is the awareness among the doctors.

Setting of the study: The study conducted in two hospitals Private and Public sector in Pune City.

Population: Doctors working in Allopathy, Ayurved and Homeopathy department.

Sample and Sampling Technique

Sample Size:-60 Doctors.

Sampling Method:-Random Sampling

Inclusion Criteria:

- a) Doctors who are directly involved in patient care.
- b) Willing to participate in the study.
- c) Doctors working in the clinical areas for more than one year

Tool: Semi Structured Questionnaire.

A semi-structured questionnaire was used as tools to assess the awareness of the doctors regarding interpathy.

Technique:-Self-reporting technique to assess awareness

Validity and reliability:

The content validity of the tool was determined by a group of 10 experts in the field of Medicine. The reliability of the questionnaire was calculated by Cronbach’s alpha formula. The calculated value of the reliability coefficient was 0.83.

Data gathering process:

The questionnaire was administered to the doctors in their duty hours. Data was gathered in a period of eight days. Two hospitals were visited simultaneously and questionnaire was administered to them after their rounds. It took 30 minutes for them to fill the questionnaire. Precautions were taken to avoid contamination of the tool.

The collected data was analyzed in terms of frequency and percentage and compared using Mann Whitney and Wilcoxon test. The relationship was analyzed by co-efficient of correlation and was presented in the form of tables and graphs

4. Data Analysis

Findings of the study was analyzed in the following manner

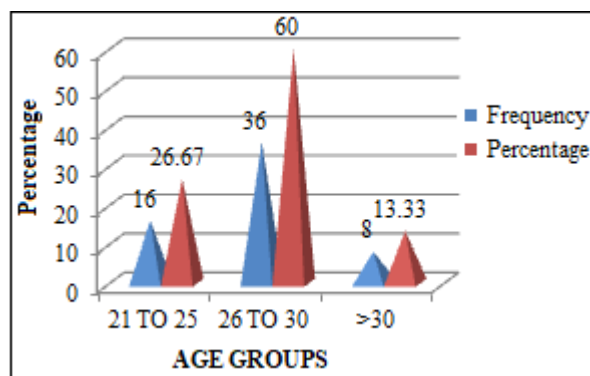
- 1) Analysis of Demographic data
- 2) Awareness about interpathy among the doctors.
- 3) Association between the findings and the demographic data.

Analysis of demographic data of the samples:

a) Distribution of samples according to age (n=60)

Age	Frequency	Percentages
21 - 25yrs	16	26.67%
26-30yrs	36	60%
>30yrs	8	13.33%
Total	60	100%

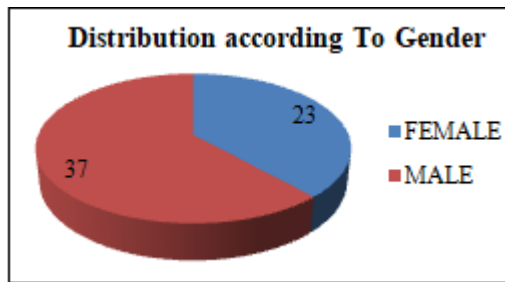
Maximum number of samples belonged to the age group of 26 to 30 years 36 (60%) and minimum eight (13.33%) were above the age of 30 years



b) Distribution of samples according to Gender, n=60

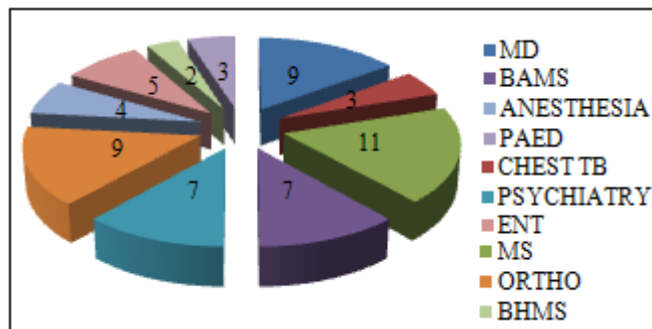
Gender	Frequency	Percentages
Female	23	38
Male	36	62
Total	60	100

Above tables shows 23 (38%) were females and 37 (62%) were males



c) Analysis of demographic data of the Samples according to specialty

Specialty	Frequency	Percentages
MD	9	15.00
CHEST TB	3	5.00
MS	11	18.33
BAMS	7	11.67
PSYCHIATRY	7	11.67
ORTHO	9	15.00
ANESTHESIA	4	6.67
ENT	5	8.33
BHMS	2	3.33
PAED	3	5.00
Total	60	100



1) Awareness About Interpathy among the samples in the study

Grade	Score	No. of Cases	Frequency %
Below average	<25	5	8.33
Average	26-50	25	41.67
Good	51-75	27	45
Very good	76-100	3	5

Awareness about Interpathy among the samples in the study

Awareness	Mean	SD	Mean %
	5.15	1.78	51.15

The mean awareness score regarding awareness about interpathy was 5.15.

2) Association between Awareness score and Demographic data

Age	n	Awareness score		F Value	P Value
		Mean	SD		
21 to 25	16		1.46		
26 to 30	36	5.06	1.88	0.67	0.52
>30	8	4.75	1.98		

Age increases awareness decreases but not significant statistically as P Value is 0.52

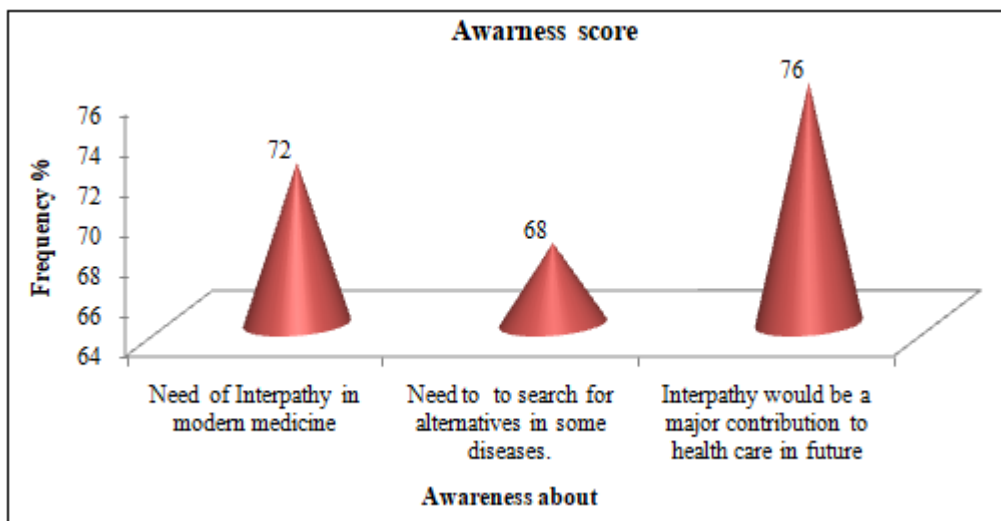
3) Association between Awareness score and gender

Gender	Male n= 37	Female n=23	M. W-Z Value	P-Value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
	4.57	1.74	6.09	1.44
				3.21
				0.001

The test is significant. Females have more awareness than Men. P= 0.001

4) Distribution of Awareness Score

Awareness about	Frequency (%)	
	Yes	No
Need of Interpathy in modern medicine	72	28
Need to search for alternatives in some diseases	68	32
Interpathy would be a major contribution to health care in future	76	24



5. Conclusion

Promotion of Research Activities on complementary and alternative medicine is very important. Need of awareness about alternative medicine is necessary because the client is one who can decide what fits him best and has option to choose his line of treatment. People prefer to opt line of treatment for a healthy and holistic lifestyle. Interpathy would be a major contribution to health care in future agreed by maximum samples of the study.

[4] Suresh K Sharma: Nursing Research & Statistics. Reed Elsevier India Private Ltd.2011.

[5] Dixit J. V: Principles and Practices of Biostatistics; 4thedn, Bhanot Publishers. Jabalpur 2009.

6. Recommendations

- 1) Study can be performed on larger sample size
- 2) Evidence based clinical study can be encouraged.
- 3) Systematic reviews, randomized clinical trials, observational studies, case control studies can be performed

References

- [1] Dixit JV. Interpathy Research and Role of Health Universities. International Journal of Education and Research in Health Sciences,; 2 (4): 55-56 55 October-December 2016
www.journal.saiamrut.com/saj/showfile/showpdfarticle.aspx?id cited 05/01/2018
- [2] B. S. Nagoba. Interpathy Research in Healthcare System. Does it Really Help? Journal of Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences University JKIMSU, Vol. 2, No. 2, July-Dec. 2013. www.jkimsu.com/ cited date 05/01/2108.
- [3] **Gabriel Tan and et al** Efficacy of selected complementary and alternative medicine Interventions for chronic pain. Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development. Vol.44 no. (2) 2007 pg-195-222.

Volume 12 Issue 2, February 2023

www.ijsr.net

Licensed Under Creative Commons Attribution CC BY