

An Assessment on the Knowledge and Healthcare Related Practices of Parents Regarding Home Management of Children with Nephrotic Syndrome

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Nephrotic Syndrome (NS) is the commonest glomerular disorder in childhood. A proper home management is needed to monitor the condition of the child on daily basis. This study was conducted to assess the knowledge and healthcare related practices of parents regarding home management of children with NS. A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among parents attending to Paediatric Nephrology Clinic (PNC), at the Teaching Hospital, Karapitiya. Data were collected through an interviewer administered questionnaire. Knowledge and practice scores were calculated. Independent sample t-test, Chi-square test and Pearson's correlation were used to analyze data. Out of 94 participants the majority (71.3 %) were mothers, 20.2 % were fathers and the rest were other care givers. Highest educational qualification of the majority (67.0 %) was G.C.E. O/ L. Majority of children were boys (70.2 %). Mean age of the children was 7.6 ± 3 . About 40.4 % of the children had the onset of disease at the age of 2-3 years. Majority of participants 53.2 % (50) had scored above 75 marks for knowledge. The practice score of the majority (66 %) was between 50 and 100. There were statistically significant associations between knowledge score and duration of management ($p = 0.008$), family history ($p = 0.000$). There was a statistically significant association between practice score and number of living children ($p = 0.009$). A weak negative correlation ($r = -0.240$, $n = 94$, $p = 0.020$, 2-tailed) was found between knowledge and healthcare related practices. The overall knowledge and practices of parents regarding home management of children with NS, attending to PNC, TH, Karapitiya were adequate and satisfactory.

Keywords: Home management, Paediatric, Nephrotic syndrome, Knowledge, Practice