



## **A Study to Assess Knowledge Regarding Awareness of Swine Flu among High School Children in Selected Private Schools of Ahmedabad City**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The objectives of the study were to identify existing knowledge related to swine flu among high school children and to assess the level of knowledge on swine flu among high school children. The research approach used for the study was survey method. The present study was conducted in private high schools of Ahmedabad city. None randomize convenience sampling technique was used. The samples of 100 students were selected 50 from one school and 50 from other school of Ahmedabad city. The Instrument used for gathering the necessary data was semi-structured questionnaire. Results revealed that about 3% respondents had inadequate knowledge about swine flu while 64% respondents had moderate knowledge about swine flu, and 33% respondents had adequate knowledge about swine flu.

### **KEYWORDS**

*Assess, Knowledge, Swine flu, High school children, Private schools*



## INTRODUCTION

H1N1 influenza is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza virus. H1N1 virus cause high level of illness & low death rates in pigs. The classical swine flu virus was first isolated from a pig in a year 1930 .There are four main influenza type A virus subtype that have been isolated in pigs that are H1N1, H1N2, H3N3, H3N1.

WHO declared H1N1 infection as a pandemic on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2009. About 208 countries reported laboratory confirmed cases of H1N1 influenza including 12,220 deaths. The new virus emerged through cross species transmission and assortment of H1N1 antigens and recombination between swine ,avian and human strains **(WHO, June 2009)**<sup>1</sup>

The severity of disease ranges from mild symptoms to severe illness that can result in death. Most people who expose the virus experience the milder disease & remove without antiviral treatment of medical care while more serious cases, more than half of hospitalized people had underlying health condition of weak immune system. In august 2010, the world health organization declared the swine flu Pandemic. Cases of swine flu have been reported in India, with over 31,156 positive test cases and 1,841 deaths upto March 2015. **(WHO August 2010)**<sup>1</sup>

## STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

“A study to assess knowledge regarding awareness Of swine flu among high school children in selected private schools of Ahmedabad city”

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To Identify Existing Knowledge about Swine flu among high School children.
2. To assess the level of Knowledge regarding swine flu Among schools children

## ASSUMPTION

1. Student may not have adequate knowledge regarding swine flu and its Prevention.

## NEED OF THE STUDY

According to the U.S. Study of the disease, 27 children were 14 times more likely to be sickened by swine flu than adult 60 and older the age group that is typically the most of risk for influenza. According to national capital Thursday report, 113 fresh cases of swine flu with the majority of them being children



According to Delhi health minister Kiranwilli ,From 113 swine flu cases,65 were children and of them has been quarantined. This virus H1N1 carries some qualities that could be cause for concern down the line . “The scary thing for me as a paediatrician is that we are beginning to see flu mutate a different time of year than is normal , as well a affecting an age group that is not normally at risk,” Namely ,teens and adults, as opposed to the normally vulnerable population of young children and the elderly

The fact that this flu appeared in the springtime, at the normal conclusion of flu season , shares discomfiting similarities with the 1918 spanish flu pandemic which killed tens of millions of mostly healthy young adults. In Karnataka five swine flu deaths, including three ,were report on 22nd September , 2009, taking India's total toll due to the contagious influenza A (H1N1)virus to 262 , As , Karnataka is seeing a surge in swine flu deaths, authorities are now planning clinical audits. The purpose behind the clinical audit is to find the actual causes behind the death of 80 peoples due to H1N1 influenza(According to health authorities of kanrataka)<sup>2</sup>

In India especially Gujarat suffered most from its high case fatality rate with 1674 cases and 144 deaths as on February 2015. By simple hygiene and sanitation measures for cough and respiratory problems, one can effectively prevent swine flu transmission. Correct knowledge and information regarding swine flu helps in taking effective steps to prevent the spread of swine flu.

## METHODS

The present study conducted in private high schools of Ahmedabad city. None randomize convenience sampling technique was used. The samples were 100 students ,50 from one school and 50 from other school of Ahmedabad city. The Instrument used for gathering the necessary data was semi-structured questionnaire The investigator has collected the data by using structured questionnaire through multiple choice question technique. The investigator was taken permission regarding data collection of knowledge regarding awareness of swine flu among private high schools children from local authorized area. The investigator located the samples by survey

## RESULTS

It was seen that the respondents have (71%) knowledge about introduction of swine flu from all of them (60.8%) have knowledge about causes / risk factor? (43.6%) knows about mode of transmission of swine flu. (74.6%) have knowledge about sign and symptoms of swine flu. (65%)



knows about diagnostic test of swine flu. (47%) knows about prevention and treatment of swine flu. (40%) knows about complication of swine flu. The level of knowledge about swine flu in students (3%) inadequate knowledge , and( 64%) moderate knowledge ,( 33%)adequate Knowledge.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The following recommendation are made on the basis of the findings of the present study.

1. A similar study should be replicated using a large sample and among more number of areas so that findings can be generalized for a large population.
2. A similar study should be replicated among various specific age group of population.
3. A comparative study should be conducted in order to compare the level of knowledge among specific age group of population.
4. A study should be conducted to find out the association between treatment and complication of swine flu.
5. A study should be conducted to find out how different environment and health practice affect the swine flu symptoms.
6. A longitudinal study should be conducted to find out the effectiveness of educational programs on awareness of swine flu



## REFERENCES

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