



## SUMMARY

Intestinal parasitic infection is a group of endemic communicable disease and constitute a major health problem in many countries specially the less developed one. Where they predispose to mal-nourishment and impairment of physical and mental fitness specially among pre school age children The disease is highly consideration in developing countries with very poor sanitary and hygienic conditions. Parasitic disease continues to be major medical health problem in Egypt. Parasitic disease spread by contaminated food and water supplies so, mothers are the main caregivers for their children so, nurses as providers of primary health care, play a major role in changing knowledge and behavior of mothers regarding their children with parasitic disease, and to educate the mothers how they can restore the child to good health.

The Present study aimed to assess the family care regarding their preschool children with parasitic diseases in rural area, the following objectives:

- 1- Assess the family knowledge regarding parasitic diseases.
- 2- Assess the family practice toward their preschool children with parasitic diseases.
- 3- Assess the home environment of family and their preschool children.
- 4- Identify factors affecting on family care regarding their preschool children with parasitic diseases.



**The work was directed to answer two questions:**

- 1- Is there relation ship between family knowledge regarding parasitic disease socio- economic characteristics?
- 2- Is there relation ship between family knowledge related practices regarding their preschool children with parasitic diseases and home environment?

**Setting:**

This descriptive study was carried out at homes of children who infected by parasitic disease and their mothers who attending the out patient pediatric clinic of Kafr shoker hospital.

**Sample:**

A sample including 100 child with parasitic disease and their mothers. They were chosen a systematic randomly from the previously mentioned settings during the period from beginning of April 2010 up to end of October 2010 the following criteria:

- 1- Ages ranged from 3to6 years.
- 2- Both sexes.
- 3- Diagnosed as intestinal parasitic infection.
- 4- Residing in rural areas.

**Tools:** Two tools were used for collecting data:

**First tool :**

An interviewing questionnaire format which included the following:

- General characteristics of children such as: age, sex, arranged of each child in the family.
- General characteristics of mothers who caregivers such as: age, marital status, occupation, education level, number of family members and income.
- Mothers knowledge related to the disease such as: concept, causes, signs, symptoms, complications, control and prevention of disease and source of knowledge.
- General health status of the studied child such as: general appearance, (skin, hair, eye and dental) condition.
- Medical present history of children such as: onset of signs and symptoms, cause of disease, symptoms that appeared of children.

**Second tool:**

An observational check list for home environment was developed to assess:

- Mothers care for their children such as: home condition, ventilation level, lighting, sewage disposal, safe water supply, type of bathroom, sanitation, source of food preparation.
- Mothers practice for their children with parasitic diseases, such as: personal hygiene, housing hygiene, type of food, medication, prevention of spread infection.

**Results: the main study results revealed the following:**

- An over all frequency rate of parasitic disease was detected with rate of 65 % among children aged 3-4 years and 35 % among those aged 4-5 years. One third (33%) and more than on third (40%) of the mothers and fathers have middle education and Illiterate respectively, more than half (54%) of the mothers were worked but more than half (59%) of the fathers had free job.
- According to parasitic types found in the investigation of the studied samples more than half of them (55% ) had Amoebas, more than one third (35%) diagnosis of Oxyurous and the minority of them (5%) diagnosis of H. nana and Ascaris.
- The mothers score of knowledge about intestinal parasitic disease, more than half of the mothers (55%) didn't know typos of parasitic diseases, three quarter of the mothers (75%) answered correctly but incomplete about way parasitic diseases spread and more than two third of the mothers (65%) complete correct answer about protection from parasitic, More than two third of the mothers (70%) didn't know correct answer about the symptoms and signs of parasitic disease, more than half of the mothers (65%) answered complete correctly about the ways of prevention of parasitic disease, more than one third of the mothers (40%) didn't know the complication of intestinal parasitic diseases and the main source of the knowledge about intestinal parasitic infection was from the personal experience and from the family .
- As regards mother's practice towards prevention of intestinal parasitic infection it was found that washing hands before and after meals was mentioned as the most common practice of personal



hygiene practice and boiling stored water before its drinking was mentioned as the most common practice of water and food hygiene practice, while ventilate house frequently was mentioned as the most common practice of housing sanitation practice and as regards to children's towards prevention of intestinal parasitic infection it was found that washing hands after meals was reported as the main practice of personal hygiene practice and drink tap water was reported as the main practice of water and food hygiene practice while avoid playing in dust was reported as the main practice of environmental sanitation practice.

- The findings of the current study showed that there is a significant relation between all socio-demographic characteristics of mothers and their knowledge about intestinal parasitic infection, while there is a significant relation between all socio-demographic characteristics of infected children expects sex and their knowledge about intestinal parasitic infection. Also this study was revealed that there was a significant difference between all knowledge of mothers and their infected children about intestinal parasitic infection expect concept of disease.
- The findings of the current study showed that there is a significant relation between mother's socio-demographic characteristic and their personal hygiene, water & food hygiene and housing sanitation practice. While in children the present study showed that there was statistical a significant relation between children socio-demographic characteristic and their water& food hygiene and environmental sanitation practice and also there was a significant relation between children all socio-demographic data except sex



and their personal hygiene practice and also there was statistical a significant relation between the mothers total knowledge about the disease and their practice, and also there was a significant relation between total mothers practice regarding their infected children with parasitic disease and home environment.

**In the light of findings of the present study the following recommendations can be suggested:**

- Continuous health education based upon need assessment of high risk group of children and their mothers to improve their knowledge and practice regarding intestinal parasitic infection, using different teaching methods through mother class in out pt. clinics or M.C.H centers.
- Providing adequate mass media as books and boosters disseminating the needed information about mode of transmission of parasitic disease and food hygiene and control of contamination.
- Educational programs especially focused for those less educated mothers about:
  - Proper handling of foods.
  - Strength good personal hygiene including health and clean lines as well as avoidance of certain bad habits as lickings of fingers while tasting of food.
  - Used proper methods for insect control.