

Effect of Lifestyle based Edu Vaccine in Indian community: Study Outcomes of National Program for Prevention and Eradication of Heart Attack (NPPEHA)

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ARTICLE INFO

Received on: 12/05/2019
Accepted on: 19/11/2019
Available online: 03/01/2020

Key words:

NPPEHA,
coronary artery disease,
heart attack, Edu vaccine,
SAAOL heart center.

ABSTRACT

Objective: The present study was designed to evaluate the impact of Education (Edu) vaccine in National Program for Prevention and Eradication of Heart Attack (NPPEHA).

Methods: This pretest–posttest designed study was held in the SAAOL Heart Center in different cities (Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, and Mumbai) of India from Nov 2016 to Dec 2017. Total 6,225 community people were enrolled. An educational counseling intervention (Edu vaccine) comprising: knowledge of heart, heart disease awareness, risk factor awareness, preventive measure awareness and diagnostic, and regular medical checkups were given to community people with expert doctors through face-to-face interactions and video counseling. The effect of lifestyle-based counseling was assessed through pre- and post-designed Edu vaccine questionnaire.

Results: The results of this study showed a significant improvement in knowledge of heart (79.6%), heart disease awareness (87.8%), risk factor awareness (74.9%), preventive measure awareness (89.8%), diagnostic, and regular medical checkups (84.7%), respectively.

Conclusion: The results of this study showed a significant improvement in knowledge of heart (79.6%), heart disease awareness (87.8%), risk factor awareness (74.9%), preventive measure awareness (89.8%), diagnostic, and regular medical checkups (84.7%), respectively. The first phase study of NPPEHA results conclude that lifestyle-based Edu vaccine is effective, and this tool is very easy to follow and heart attack prevention methods. The next phase of NPPEHA program is ongoing and results are awaited.

INTRODUCTION

Coronary heart disease (CHD) is a non-infectious, fetal, lifestyle related disease, develops due to increasing age, unhealthy diet, obesity, physical inactivity, consumption of tobacco, higher intake of alcohol, and stress (Bijnen *et al.*, 1994; Das *et al.*, 2007). Coronary artery disease is a chronic inflammatory condition in which coronary artery wall become thickened due to the accumulation of fatty particles and lipoprotein deposition occurs. The further plaque formation may lead to heart attack (Tourlouki *et al.*, 2009).

CHD is epidemic in India and the major cause of morbidity and mortality around the world. Currently, it is accounting for 21.9% of total deaths and projected to increase to 26.3% by 2030 (Hickox *et al.*, 2016). The current prevalence of CHD is higher in urban areas (12.6%) as compared to the rural areas (4.6%), and it is continuously increasing (Gupta *et al.*, 2016).

CHD is a very expensive disease due to its current invasive treatment methods, it consumes a significant portion of household's income because of its chronic nature, long duration of hospitalization, and treatment complications that further required expensive medicines (Ali *et al.*, 2010; Srinivasan *et al.*, 2017). Patient education about the disease, symptoms, risk factors, and treatment are essential components of patient care after getting heart disease has found cost effective and reduce surgery cost and duration of hospitalization (Castelein *et al.*, 1995).

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Several studies indicated that a poor knowledge about the disease and its treatment and management is associated with a higher Body Mass Index (BMI), poor glycemic control, more complications and co-morbidities, more angina episodes, and prolonged use of pharmacological treatment (Khattab *et al.*, 2010). Hence, repeated health education and lifestyle modifying interventions by physicians and other health educators are required (Habib *et al.*, 2003).

The results of two randomized controlled trials showed a significant improvement in physiological and biochemical parameters in T2DM patients following a 6-month lifestyle intervention program (Adachi *et al.*, 2013; Spencer *et al.*, 2011). Cardiovascular risk factors are prevalent, however, they are not recognized due to a lack of knowledge and awareness of CHD and lack of appropriate screening (Mosca *et al.*, 2011; Villablanca *et al.*, 2010).

Two out of three people have at least one of the major risk factors for developing CHD, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes mellitus, unbalanced diet, physical inactivity, stress, and obesity (Go *et al.*, 2014). Thus, knowledge and awareness of heart disease risk factors are the key theme to help people and to adopt healthy lifestyles, encourage prevention of lifestyle related diseases, and reduce the rate of heart attacks.

According to Bastable *et al.* (2006), the main purpose of patient counseling or education is to increase the patient's ability, confidence and competence in self-care management, and the major goal is to prepare patients and family for independence (Bastable *et al.*, 2006). Counseling is aimed at improving patient functional capacity and increasing health standard and increase patient understanding of their problem, resources, and limitation and also builds patient capacity (Ayers *et al.*, 2007). A study has proven that counseling helps people in managing life problem by providing support, motivation, encouragement, hope, and comfort (Dev *et al.*, 2005). Educated patients can develop skills that allow them to manage and control CHD and other related complications (Chhajer *et al.*, 2018; Mustapha *et al.*, 2014). Bower *et al.* (2006) did a systematic review and meta-analysis study to assess clinical effectiveness of counseling in primary care and his study conclude that counseling is effective and delivers some short-term outcomes with the satisfactions of the participants Bower *et al.* (2006). Another systematic review done by Lin *et al.* on the U.S. preventive services task force with special concern on behavioral counseling to prevent cardiovascular risk factors and associated disease conclude that behavioral counseling is effective for the management of cardiovascular disease and its risk factors. The effective results of the counseling may sustain for the years (Lin *et al.*, 2014). Hence, lifestyle counseling or Edu vaccine generally used as an intervention is a novel, cost-effective, non-invasive method to prevent and control CHD, and decrease premature death due to lack of awareness about the disease.

Here, we developed a National Program for Prevention and Eradication of Heart Attack for improving cardiac health of Indian population and reduces the national burden in terms of Non-Communicable Diseases. National Program for Prevention and Eradication of Heart Attack (NPPEHA) is an awareness program, for increasing awareness about lifestyle management or Edu vaccine. In this program, community peoples were educated about heart, heart attacks and its prevention and control in a natural way.

This program aims to educate millions of people across the India involves free medical camps to check the biochemical assessment-lipid and sugar profile: physiological-blood pressure, pulse, and to educate people for prevention and eradication of heart attack. The purpose of this study was to assess the effect of lifestyle Edu vaccine provided by Educational video and face-to-face interaction—a tool used for counseling to community people to eradicate heart attack.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study design and setting

This pretest and posttest designed study was conducted in the SAAOL Heart Center in different cities (Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, and Mumbai) of India from Nov 2016 to December 2017. In this study, community people were enrolled based on consecutive sampling technique. This study was conducted in two phases.

The planning and preparation for counseling components [Heart Education, Heart Attack Awareness, Knowledge of Cardiac Risk Factors, Heart disease co-morbidity awareness and prevention, Zero oil diet, Fruit and vegetable (Fibrous diet), Physical activity, Stress management and proper sleep, Yoga and meditation], and recruitment of participants was done in the first phase. Implementation of counseling, data collection, and data analyses was done in the second phase.

Eligibility criteria

Community people of age more than 18 years, willing to participate and able to give valid written informed consent were included in this study. Community persons under age of 18 years, hospitalized, having mental disorder, visual, hearing problems and unwilling to participate were excluded from the study.

Sample size

Total 6,225 subjects were recruited as they fulfilled the study eligibility criteria from the SAAOL Heart Centers of different cities (Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, and Mumbai) based on consecutive sampling technique. The total duration of this study was 1 year (Nov 2016–Dec 2017). The minimum calculated sample size for this study was 4,147 with a margin of error 5% and confidence of the interval of 95%.

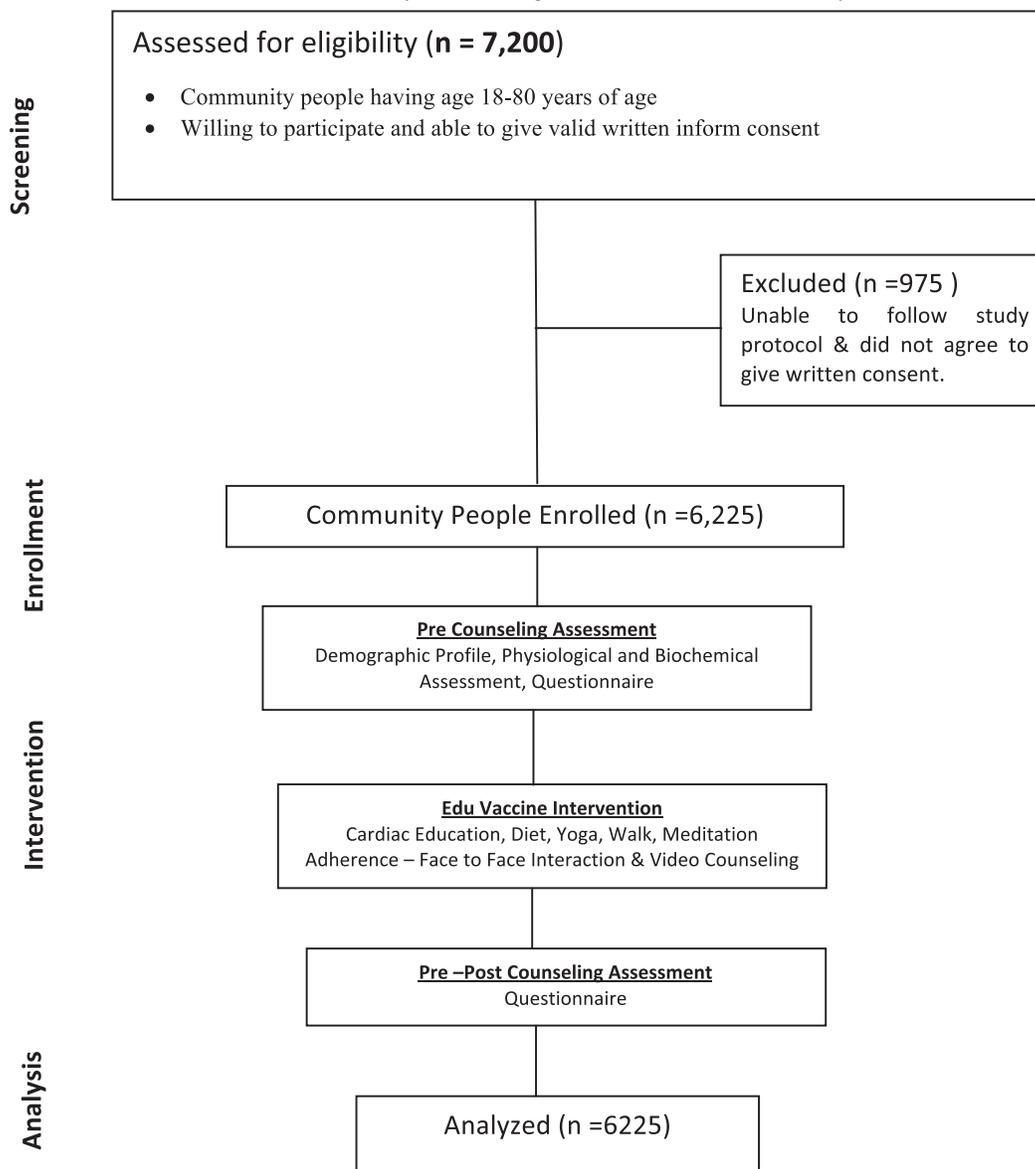
Sample size for the proposed study was calculated by using a standard formula:

$$N = \frac{Z^2 p(1-p)}{e^2}$$

In this formula, Z is the corresponding confidence interval, e is the margin of error, and p is the estimated value of the proportion of samples having the condition of interest. The overview of study with Screening, Enrollment, Intervention, and Analysis is given in Table 1.

Intervention

Lifestyle-based counseling was used as an intervention tool for participants who were participating in the NPPEHA program to prevent and control Heart Attacks. Lifestyle-based Edu vaccine is a combined package of knowledge and education, provided by clinical experts through videos and pictures to educate

Table 1. Overview of study with screening, enrollment, intervention, and analysis.

community people even an illiterate person in a very simple way about heart, human body, risk factors leads to heart attack, warning signs, and how to eradicate a heart attack through awareness of diet, yoga, walking, meditation, and regular medical checkups.

The lifestyle management sessions were provided by an experienced dietitian, health education, physical trainer, and heart and lifestyle experts. All lifestyle management counseling components were explained in the local language, supported by pictures and video by a group of individuals.

Lifestyle-based Edu vaccine contains 10 essential components for counseling, including-Heart Education, Heart Attack Awareness, Knowledge of Cardiac Risk Factors, Heart disease co-morbidity awareness and prevention, Zero oil diet, Fruit, and vegetable (Fibrous diet), Physical activity, Stress management and proper sleep, Yoga and meditation. Each session of lifestyle modification counseling took 38 minutes video and face-to-face doctor consultation.

Measurements

Demographic profile (age, sex, locality, medical history, and education) of communities' people was taken at the beginning of the study. After that, the anthropometric (Height, weight, and BMI), physiological (Blood pressure and pulse rate), and Biochemical [Blood sugar fasting, Postprandial (PP), and lipid profile] measurements of all study participants were done before intervention. Height and weight of all study participants were measured using a "Stadiometer" and "SECA" digital scale, and BMI was calculated by using a formula of weight in kg divided by height in m² (kg/m²).

Systolic and Diastolic Blood pressure of the study participants was recorded by trained personnel, using an automatic digital blood pressure monitor of Diamond Company (Diamond clock model B.P monitor). Pulse was measured using a ChoiceMMed MD300C2D pulse oximeter. Blood Sugar Fasting and PP tests were analyzed using Glucose oxidase (GOD) and Peroxidase (POD)

method, Lipid Profile consists cholesterol by the Cholesterol oxidase- Phenol 4-aminoantipyrine peroxidase method, triglyceride by Glycerol-3-phosphate oxidase method, high-density lipoproteins (HDL)-cholesterol by immune inhibition method was done and low density lipoproteins (LDL) was calculated using a standard formula [LDL = Total Cholesterol- HDL - (Triglycerides / 5)]. After that, cardiac awareness of study participants was assessed with the help of the Cardiac Awareness Questionnaire. This Questionnaire contains total 20 basic questions about heart, heart attack, sign, symptoms, and risk factors for heart disease, normal values of body parameters, medication, and prevention methods of heart attack, etc. Then lifestyle intervention counseling or Edu vaccine was provided by clinical experts (dietician, health education, physical trainer, and heart and lifestyle experts) with the help of pictures and videos.

After lifestyle intervention counseling, the Cardiac Awareness Questionnaire was again provided to the study participants to assess the improvement in cardiac awareness and knowledge after intervention.

Statistical analysis

Statistical package for the social sciences software version 21 was used for all statistical analyses. In this study, percentage, mean, standard deviation (SD), median, and sample paired *t*-test was used in the assessment of study parameters.

Ethical approval and consent

Ethical approval of the present study was granted by SAAOL Heart Center ethics committee with Ref No. Saaol/NPPEHA/Ethics/02/2015. Before initiation of the study, the informed consent was obtained from all the enrolled study participants.

RESULTS

Baseline assessment of total 6,225 participants

In the present study, the data of 6,225 participants were analyzed. The mean (SD) age of the total study participants was 56.42 ± 16.78 with an age range from 18 to 80. The number of female participants was higher than male's participants.

The average range of total cholesterol was 169.50 and the triglyceride level was 147.46 at baseline. The mean (SD) of good cholesterol, i.e., HDL was 53.27 ± 15.341 at baseline. The mean (SD) of blood sugar fasting was 103.673 ± 33.6055 and blood sugar PP was 146.25 ± 41.216 at initial. The mean (SD) of weight and height was 65.52 ± 13.113 and 5.2571 ± 0.377 and BMI was 24.57 ± 4.98 . The average mean of systolic blood pressure was 82.77 and diastolic blood pressure mean was 131.25. The average pulse rate of study participants was 66.28 at baseline assessment. The detail of baseline assessment profile of total study participants is given in Table 2.

Baseline assessment of Bangalore participants

Out of 6,225 participants, 1,469 were belonging to Bangalore. The mean (SD) age of the study participants was 56.38 ± 16.77 . The number of female participants was higher than male's participants in Bangalore. The average range of total cholesterol was 159.09 and the triglyceride level was 147.35 at baseline.

The mean (SD) of HDL was 49.98 ± 9.061 at baseline. The mean (SD) of blood sugar fasting was 93.716 ± 23.8437 and

blood sugar PP was 149.85 ± 43.065 at initial. The mean (SD) of weight and height was 65.52 ± 12.797 and 5.29 ± 0.366 and BMI was 23.47 ± 3.68 . The average systolic blood pressure was 81.49, while diastolic blood pressure 130.07 and average pulse rate was 66.05 at baseline assessment. The detail of baseline assessment of Bangalore participants is given in Table 3.

Baseline assessment of Delhi participants

Out of 6,225 participants, 1,655 participants were attended counseling program in Delhi. The mean (SD) age of the Delhi participants was 56.49 ± 16.784 . The number of female participants was higher than male's participants in Bangalore. The average range of total cholesterol was higher 174.30 as compared to other cities and the triglyceride level was also higher 154.06 at baseline. The mean (SD) of HDL was 47.76 ± 8.719 at baseline. The mean (SD) of blood sugar fasting was lower as compared to other cities 96.31 ± 22.050 and blood sugar PP was 140.28 ± 39.968 at initial. The mean (SD) of weight and height was 65.95 ± 13.468 and 5.236 ± 0.38 and BMI was 22.85 ± 3.80 .

The average systolic blood pressure was 83.48, while diastolic blood pressure 132.09 and average pulse rate was 66.23 at baseline assessment. The detail of baseline assessment of Delhi participants is given in Table 4.

Baseline assessment of total Kolkata participants

Out of 6,225 participants, 1,634 were participating in the Kolkata counseling program in. The mean (SD) age of the Kolkata study participants was 56.42 ± 16.8 . The number of female

Table 2. Baseline assessment profile of total study participants.

Variables	Mean	SD	Chi-square	p-value
Age	56.42	16.78		
Cholesterol	169.5	45.11		
Triglyceride	147.46	47.64		
HDL	53.27	15.34		
Blood sugar F	103.673	33.60		
Blood Sugar PP	146.25	41.21	139.4	0.082
BMI	24.57	4.98		
BP systolic	82.77	11.98		
BP Diastolic	131.25	19.50		
Pulse	66.28	10.56		

Table 3. Baseline assessment of Bangalore participants.

Variables	Mean	SD	Chi-square	p-value
Age	56.39	16.77		
Cholesterol	159.09	50.24		
Triglyceride	147.35	41.10		
HDL	49.98	9.06		
Blood sugar F	93.716	23.84		
Blood sugar PP	149.85	43.06	142.4	0.094
BMI	23.47	3.68		
BP systolic	81.49	9.83		
BP diastolic	130.07	19.06		
Pulse	66.05	10.44		

participants was higher than male's participants in Bangalore. The average range of total cholesterol was 179.68 which was higher and the triglyceride level was 139.16 at baseline. The mean (SD) of HDL was 50.91 ± 10.264 at baseline. The mean (SD) of blood sugar fasting was 96.74 ± 19.514 and blood sugar PP was 148.93 ± 41.823 at initial. The mean (SD) of weight and height was 65.74 ± 13.343 and 5.272 ± 0.37 and BMI was 23.87 ± 4.15 . The average systolic blood pressure was 82.06, while diastolic blood pressure 129.07 and the average pulse rate was 66.23 at baseline assessment. The detail of baseline assessment of Kolkata participants is given in Table 5.

Baseline assessment of total Mumbai participants

Out of 6,225 participants, 1,447 were belonging to Mumbai. The mean (SD) age of the Mumbai study participants was 56.38 ± 16.8 . The number of female participants was higher than male's participants in Bangalore. The average range of total cholesterol was 164.36 and the triglyceride level was 148.58 at baseline. The mean (SD) of HDL was 51.85 ± 9.877 at baseline. The mean (SD) of blood sugar fasting was 122.02 ± 46.423 and blood sugar PP was 144.75 ± 39.297 at initial. The mean (SD) of weight and height was 65.65 ± 12.742 and 5.229 ± 0.38 and BMI was 26.89 ± 5.87 . The average systolic blood pressure was 83.51, while diastolic blood pressure 133.91 and average pulse rate was 66.25 at baseline assessment. The detail of baseline assessment of Mumbai participants is given in Table 6.

Table 4. Baseline assessment of Delhi participants.

Variables	Mean	SD	Chi-square	p-value
Age	56.49	16.78		
Cholesterol	174.3	44.29		
Triglyceride	154.06	56.36		
HDL	47.76	8.71		
Blood sugar F	96.31	22.05		
Blood sugar PP	140.28	39.96	162.1	0.047
BMI	22.85	3.80		
BP systolic	83.48	13.41		
BP diastolic	132.09	20.30		
Pulse	66.23	10.54		

Table 5. Baseline assessment of total Kolkata participants.

Variables	Mean	SD	Chi-square	p-value
Age	56.42	16.77		
Cholesterol	179.68	41.08		
Triglyceride	139.16	37.29		
HDL	50.91	10.26		
Blood sugar F	96.74	19.51		
Blood sugar PP	148.93	41.82	150.3	0.074
BMI	23.87	4.15		
BP systolic	82.06	8.95		
BP diastolic	129.07	18.68		
Pulse	66.23	10.56		

Summary of lifestyle-based counseling effectiveness on all study participants

Effect of lifestyle counseling or Edu vaccine was assessed through Cardiac Awareness Questionnaire and found a significant improvement in patient knowledge about heart disease, heart, human body, warning signs, risk factors lead heart attack, and how to eradicate a heart attack through, diet, yoga, walking, meditation, and regular medical checkups after Edu vaccine intervention was compared with pre assessment to post assessment.

Five essential components were: Knowledge of Heart, Heart Disease Awareness, Risk Factor Awareness, Preventive Measure Awareness and Diagnostic, and Regular Medical Checkups. The knowledge of Heart pre-assessment percentage of study participants was 26.8 at baseline, but this percentage was significantly increased after intervention about 79.6%. Heart Disease Awareness pre assessment percentage of study participants was 21.4 but after intervention at post assessment it increased about 87.8%.

Risk Factor Awareness of study participants in pre assessment was 15.7 percentages, but after the intervention of Edu vaccine, it was increased about 74.9% of post assessment. Preventive Measure Awareness percentage of study participants was 13.9 was very low at pre assessment, but it was significantly improved (89.8%) after intervention at post assessment, similarly the diagnostic and regular medical checkups awareness percentage of study participants were very low (9.7%) at pre assessment, and it was significantly increased after receiving Edu vaccine and became about 84.7% after intervention in post assessment. Lifestyle-based counseling effectiveness summary results of all the participants are given in Table 7.

DISCUSSION

In the present study, lifestyle-based Edu vaccine showed a significant improvement in patient knowledge about heart disease, heart, human body, warning signs, risk factors lead heart attack, and how to eradicate a heart attack through, diet, yoga, walking, meditation, and regular medical checkups after Edu vaccine intervention as compared to baseline or pre assessment. In the present study, education about risk factors, such as smoking, lack of exercise, and inadequate diet and ways of modifying lifestyle, was effective and improve the awareness of patient after getting an education as compared to before. Our study concludes

Table 6. Baseline assessment of total Mumbai participants.

Variables	Mean	Std. deviation	Chi-square	p-value
Age	56.38	16.80		
Cholesterol	164.36	42.25		
Triglyceride	148.58	51.34		
HDL	51.85	9.87		
Blood sugar F	122.02	46.42		
Blood sugar PP	144.75	39.29	190.4	0.069
BMI	26.89	5.87		
BP systolic	83.51	13.52		
BP diastolic	133.91	19.51		
Pulse	66.25	10.57		

Table 7. Summary of Edu vaccine (lifestyle based counseling) effectiveness on all participants.

Intervention Variables	Pre-assessment (%)	Post-assessment (%)	p-value
1. Knowledge of heart	26.8	79.6	
• Basics of heart	10.0	26.1	
• Shape & size	6.2	18.0	<0.0001
• Functions	4.4	15.1	
• Coronary arteries	6.2	20.4	
2. Heart disease awareness	21.4	87.8	
• Sign & symptoms	9.2	32.2	
• Angina (chest pain)	6.0	21.1	<0.0001
• Blockage	2.2	16.2	
• Heart attack	4.0	18.3	
3. Risk factor awareness	15.7	74.9	
• Physical inactivity	7.3	22.2	
• Diet	4.2	16.3	<0.0001
• Stress	2.3	17.3	
• Obesity, diabetes, hypertension	1.9	19.1	
4. Preventive measure awareness	13.9	89.8	
• Plant based diet	1.4	30.2	
• Walking	7.2	19.2	<0.0001
• Yoga	3.2	18.1	
• Meditation	2.1	22.3	
5. Diagnostic & regular medical checkups	9.7	84.7	
• Test for risk factor assessment	2.1	27.2	
• Lipid profile tests	4.3	17.0	<0.0001
• Test for blockages	2.1	15.3	
• Test for pumping	1.2	25.2	

that the lifestyle-based counseling on the following parameters: Knowledge of Heart, Heart Disease Awareness, Risk Factor Awareness, Preventive Measure Awareness, and Diagnostic & Regular Medical Checkups was effective and significantly increase the awareness of participants and this knowledge about the disease and lifestyle management will help them to change their lifestyle and reduce the risk of heart attacks and other lifestyle disorders.

A study done by [Shahamfar et al. \(2007\)](#) concluded that the education about the disease and its risk factor awareness can reduce the prevalence and burden of disease. These findings are similar to the result of [Shea et al. \(1991\)](#) study. In his study, after education the risk factors and overcome of disease in the experimental group was significantly improved.

Another study done by Lindsay reveals that lifestyle modification with increasing the knowledge of the heart and heart disease can significantly reduce the risk factors of disease ([Lindsay et al., 1991](#)). A study done by [Castelein et al. \(1995\)](#) reveals that the Patient education is a key component of cardiac patient care and found to be cost effective in terms of to reduce disease recurrence, complications and the length of hospitalization.

A study by [Scalzi et al. \(1980\)](#) findings conclude that intervention (education) teaching sessions achieved a reduction in cigarette consumption and improve in other risk factors for coronary disease. A study conducted by [Ornish et al. \(1998\)](#) to assess the effect of dietary changes and stress management

education, he found a significant improvement HDL cholesterol and a reduction in total serum cholesterol and triglyceride in the experimental group.

Clinical trial study conducted by [Campbell et al. \(1998\)](#) in Scotland have shown that a health education program conducted by nurses has a positive impact on cardiac risk factors and reduction in patients with CHD. An observational study done by [Baillargeon et al. \(2001\)](#) in Canada found the cardiac health education program conducted by nurses can reduce the risk factor of heart disease and increase the awareness of disease management as well as reduce the number of CHD patients.

The results of [Yavarikia et al. \(2011\)](#) study also support the present study and showed a reduction in risk factors decreased the probability of sudden death and hospitalization rate in CHD patients after health education in patients ([Yavarikia et al. 2011](#)). A study by [Bastable et al. \(2006\)](#) concluded that the educational counseling about the disease can increase patient satisfaction, quality of life, coping skills, and improve ability to manage chronic nature of heart failure. According to [Richard et al. \(2011\)](#), counseling can lead to reduced health care cost, patient anxiety, reduces complications of illness, promote independence in the performance of activities of daily living and improve adherence to treatment plan.

A study carried out by [Otsu et al. \(2011\)](#) based on educational counseling on medication, physical activity, salt-restricted diet, smoking and drinking cessation have shown an increase in medication compliance, increase physical activity compliance, salt-restricted diet compliance and improve patient's quality of life over a period of 6-month counseling.

Due to increasing adherence, a significant improvement was observed in symptoms and risk factor management and enhance patient quality of life ([Otsu et al., 2011](#)). These all above-mentioned studies support the present study and confirm that the lifestyle intervention based counseling may significantly improve the patient's knowledge and awareness about heart disease, risk factors, treatment and management regiments which may help in the improvement in health outcomes and reduce the burden of disease and the prevalence of heart attacks.

CONCLUSION

The present study showed a positive effect of lifestyle-based Edu vaccine in community people and found a significant improvement in the participants' knowledge about heart disease, sign, risk factors, and eradication of heart attack through; diet, yoga, walking, meditation, and regular medical checkups. NPPEHA first phase study outcomes are effective and the second phase is going on.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are highly grateful to the Emami Foundation to provide financial assistance to complete the free health checkup camps and help in this study. We are also thankful to health professionals of SAAOL Heart Centers and other organizations to complete this study.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they do not have any conflicts of interest.

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How to cite this article:

Chhajer B, Singh V, Kumari G, Amin R, Tiwari S, Jaiswal P, Gupta MK. Effect of Lifestyle based Edu Vaccine in Indian community: Study Outcomes of National Program for Prevention and Eradication of Heart Attack (NPPEHA). *J Appl Pharm Sci*, 2020; 10(1):055–061.