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Research Paper :

Association of socio-economic variables with nutritional status of pre-school children

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ABSTRACT

The present study aimed to assess the relationship between socio-economic variables and nutritional status of pre-school children of Beldour block of Khagaria district of Bihar state. A village named Pansalwa was purposively selected and there from a sample of 100 pre-school children (1 to 6 years) was selected at random. Test of associations like correlation and Chi-square were used to examine interrelationships. Weight profile of the children were highly correlated with parental literacy and occupational status at 1 per cent level of significance (r=0.36 and 0.314). Weight for age status of the children was found to be positively associated with their fat and sugar intake as well as with nutrients like energy, protein and calcium intake, too. Statistical analyses of the data showed a highly significant association between washing of mother's hands before feeding the child and prevalence of diarrhoea among children. Analyses of the findings based on Gomez classification depicted a highly significant association between the age of the child and prevalence of moderate malnutrition among children (Chi-square value = 6.0). Conclusively, it might be stated that analyses of the findings clearly demonstrate the interrelationships between identified socio-economic variables and nutritional status of pre-school children.

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