

Title: Assessment of the knowledge, attitude, and practice of childbearing mothers in the geographically coastal region of Bangladesh for cleanliness and food safety of food security

Author Names: Md Abdullah Al Mamun, Ruhina Binta A Ghani, Lincon Chandra Shill, Farjana Afroz, Akibul Islam Chowdhury, Fouzia Akter, Effat Ara Jahan, Md Masud Rana, Jianfeng Li

Abstract: Objectives: Household hygiene and food safety are essential parts of food security; better food safety and hygiene will help reduce the chances of illness for young children and family members rarely studied in the selected area of coastal Bangladesh. The study aimed to discover the knowledge, attitude, and practice levels for cleanliness, hygiene, and food safety in the household.

Methods: In this study, we employed a cross-sectional survey with simple random sampling to collect data from 384 childbearing mothers. The survey used the pretested, validated, and standardized (knowledge, attitude, and practice) questionnaire-model-based interview guide.

Results: According to our study analysis, the knowledge, attitude, and practice scores among mothers were inadequate for household cleanliness and hygiene management. In the area context, knowledge efficiency was related to family type (joint and nuclear). Family economic conditions strongly influenced mothers' attitudes and behavior toward knowledge, attitude, and practice score. Unemployed and illiterate mothers have lower knowledge, attitude, and practice scores. Educated mothers have better knowledge, attitude, and practice score compared to illiterate mothers ($p < 0.014$). Nuclear family knowledge, attitude, and practice attitude was much greater ($p < 0.04$) and wealthier families showed better practice ($p < 0.001$) toward cleanliness and food safety in the household level.

Conclusions: The study discovered the mothers' and household members' attention need to improve the knowledge, attitude, and practice toward proper hygiene and food safety at the household level of marginalized populations in coastal Bangladesh.

Keywords: Food safety; and practice; attitude; household income; hygiene; knowledge; mothers' role

[DOI: 10.1177/20503121241264741](https://doi.org/10.1177/20503121241264741)