Food Safety issues and Related Standards: Awareness and Knowledge of Home Food Makers in Ludhiana

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Abstract: The results revealed that the mean awareness mean awareness score of all the respondents came out to be 9.25 out of a maximum of 15, indicating that the respondents were considerably aware (61.7%) about the food safety issues. The High mean awareness scores were in respondents >45 years, post graduates, respondents with annual family income of more than Rs. 5 lacs. Respondents belonging to Urban High Income category were having the highest awareness score(72.5%) while the Rural High Income category were least aware (52.1%) of food safety issues . An enquiry about the knowledge of various food safety standards prevalent revealed highest awareness for ISI standards, followed by Agmark standard, FPO and MPO. Only 14.17% of the respondents were aware about HACCP. Further it was seen that the urban respondents(25.83%) were having better awareness about the food standards as compared to the rural respondents(2.50%). A significant negative correlation was found between food safety awareness with the incidence of food borne diseases.

Key Words: Awareness scores, Food borne diseases, Food Safety awareness, Food Standards