Epidemics

P10

KNOWLEDGE, BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDE REGARDING HIV INFECTION AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection is a pandemic disease and AIDS has been reported in over 190 countries. The most of HIV/AIDS is encountered among 15-25 years old. Since the eradication of HIV infection has not been possible, control measures of HIV transmission are crucial. In developing countries the knowledge, and behaviour of people are not sufficient regarding HIV infection and their control measures. The aim of this study was to evaluate the knowledge, behaviour and attitude of the university students regarding HIV infection.

Cross sectional analytic study was performed. A quastionnaire including 29 questions was used. Among 7689 students 1420 were reached with %97 confidence interval and 3% alpha value. The data were analysed with SPSS v:10.0.

Among all respondents 50.5% were male and 49.5% were female. The mean age of the sampling group was 20.0±2.0. The rate of the respondents knowing the HIV/AIDS was 98.3% and most of them (81.3%) were heard the diseases by TV. Fifteen percent of the respondents were not aware of that acapuncture, tatuage and pearcing are the transmission route of HIV infection. Only 65.3% were aware of the transmission of HIV infection during the delivery of baby. When attitude on marriage was questioned 31.9% of students were admitted that HIV positive people can be married. 80.9% of the respondents were sad that it can be living together with HIV positive people. Only less than 42.8% of the students were admitted that single sexual partner is sufficient to control HIV transmission. The rate of HIV transmission control using condome during sexual activity was 84.4%.

It is concluded that the knowledge, attitude and behaviour were not sufficient among university students. The priority should be given to the education programs to develop knowledge based behaviour and attitude.