A STUDY ON KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOR (KAB)
TOWARDS HIV/AIDS AMONG INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN SOUTH INDIA

Abstract:

Background: HIV/AIDS is a bloodcurdling disease whose mode of transmission is known and is largely preventable. In spite of this, ignorance and prejudice are fuelling the spread of disease. As prevention is better than cure, building awareness in the society will help us in formulating strategy of prevention and treatment. This study aims to assess HIV/AIDS related knowledge, attitude and behavior among industrial workers in South India.

Methods: A total of 300 industrial workers participated in the study and were given a 14 closed-ended questionnaire. The data collected was analyzed with Chi Square test using SPSS version-20.0.

Results: Among 300 industrial workers, 167 (55.6%) were males and 133 (44.3%) were females. Among them 53% were uneducated and 47% were educated. Of 300 responders 78% knows about HIV/AIDS and 49% of them have knowledge about its vertical transmission. Screening before marriage for HIV/AIDS was recommended by 58% and 50% of the responders disagreed to break their relationship if their spouse or friend is infected with HIV/AIDS. Awareness

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programs from the government that are intended to help prevent infection with HIV/AIDS was not known by 65% of them. High statistical significance ($p < 0.05$) was observed in both males and females with regard to mode of prevention.

**Conclusion:** The level of knowledge among South Indian Industrial workers about HIV/AIDS was generally acceptable. Despite adequate knowledge about HIV/AIDS educational programmes with a balance of the social and emotional aspects as well as biological and medical information are needed in the society. So, dare to reach out your hands from darkness, to pull another hand in to the light.