

Knowledge On HIV Among Adolescents in A Health Camp: Does It Matter?

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Adolescents are among the risk populations for HIV transmission and infection. Enhancing knowledge on HIV through health promotion could prevent them from HIV transmission and infection. Studies have shown health promotion and intervention improve their knowledge on HIV eventually change their behaviour. This study aims to assess the knowledge on HIV among adolescents at college after intervention and their behaviour towards HIV screening test. **METHODS:** A 3-days camp was conducted in December 2018 involving 29 male adolescents whose age 18 years old from a college at Jelebu. An intervention package consisted of talk and group activities on HIV was developed and applied throughout the camp. A self-administered questionnaire consisting questions about HIV was given to the participants at pre and post interventions. **RESULTS:** There were 20.7%, 31.0%, 24.1% and 24.2% of the participants who had monthly parent's income of <RM1000, RM1001-2000, RM2001-RM3000 and >RM3001 respectively. There was significant difference in mean score at pre-intervention based on monthly parent's income with the p-value of 0.010. The mean score at pre and post interventions were 33.79 (± 25.13) and 85.52 (± 15.02) accordingly which showed significant increment at post intervention with the p-value of 0.000. All (100%) participants had been tested voluntarily for HIV at the end of the camp and all results were negative. **DISCUSSION:** Thus, health promotion improves the knowledge on HIV among adolescents and encourages them to perform HIV screening test voluntarily.

KEYWORDS: HIV, intervention, adolescents, knowledge

Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour for Prevention of Typhoid Disease Among Food Handlers: A Systematic Review

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Typhoid fever is one of the six foodborne diseases monitored in Malaysia beside acute gastroenteritis, hepatitis A, cholera, dysentery and food poisoning. This disease still become a public health issue in developing countries such as South-Central Asia, Southeast Asia and South Africa contributed by factors including poor sanitation and hygiene, unsafe water supply, congestion and poverty. **METHODS:** A systematic review was conducted in four major electronic databases namely EMBASE, PubMed, CENTRAL and Google Scholar. Two authors independently screened title and for inclusion. Another two authors independently read and include full text. Any disagreements will be referred to the third author for final decision. **RESULTS:** A total of 379 records were screened for titles and abstracts. Only nine full texts articles were assessed for eligibility. Of these, two studies were included. No study done on attitude was found. Olalekan AW et al., reported that 52.7% had poor level of knowledge on transmission, prevention and control measures of Salmonella infections. Study by Smith SI et al. showed 90% of the respondents were aware of typhoid disease but only 38.9% respondents noted that typhoid disease can be acquired through contaminated water and contaminated food. One included study measured behavioral practices as one of their outcomes. **CONCLUSION:** Knowledge and behaviour regarding typhoid disease remain low among food handler. The available evidence is extremely limited, more studies are needed to evaluate the long-term benefits of knowledge, attitude and behaviour focusing on typhoid disease.

KEYWORDS: knowledge, attitude, behaviour, typhoid, food handler