

# KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE SURVEY ON HIV/AIDS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS OF JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

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**Abstract:** HIV/AIDS are the most serious health issue in the world. The global epidemic of HIV/AIDS is now rolling at a speedy rate among young people. College people are at great risk of HIV and AIDS infections. So, awareness is needed to control and prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS. **Objective -1.** To determine the knowledge level of college students in Jaipur about HIV/AIDS **2.** To support government strategies for control HIV and AIDS. The survey was conducted on 100 students of Nims Nursing College in Jaipur city by a pre-structured questionnaire. All of the respondents have heard about the term HIV/AIDS. The majority of information were media (73%) and educational institute (22%). Majority of the students said that there is no treatment (60.10%) and vaccine (63%) available. According to most of the respondents the disease can be transmitted by unprotected sex (96%), mother to fetus (68%), sharing infected needles or syringe (79%), blood transfusion (91%) and breast feeding (62%). Some students had misconception about the transmission. About 26% students said it can be transmitted by mosquito bite. Regarding the knowledge about control and prevention most of them had better knowledge. Most participants had positive attitude towards infected person. The study suggested that to reduce the misconception, and increase awareness education and intervention programs are needed to increase the level of Knowledge and awareness of HIV/AIDS.

**Key word:** HIV/AIDS, Knowledge, Attitude, College Student.

## INTRODUCTION

HIV/AIDS is one of the most critical diseases humanity has ever faced. It brings with it profound social, economic and public health concerns.. The first cases were found in 1981 and since the beginning of the pandemic more than three decades ago; approximately 30 million people have died of AIDS-related illnesses. There are an estimated 35.3 million People Living with HIV (PLHIV). HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus, and AIDS stands for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. It happens when the immune system is damaged by HIV to the point where a person is vulnerable to any number of Opportunistic Infections (OIs) or diseases. Having AIDS is defined as presenting with HIV and one or more OIs (Sanyal, 2006). The first patient of HIV infection in a human was recognized in 1959. The first cases of HIV in the United States date back to 1981. In 1986 first case of HIV was reported in India. The number of people with the disease increased. In September 1982, the CDC uses the term acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)

The first AIDS clinic opened in San Francisco. In 1984, found the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which is the virus responsible for HIV infections.

According to National AIDS Control Organization of India, the prevalence of AIDS in India in 2018 was 0.26%, which is down from 0.41 in 2002. While the National AIDS Control Organization estimated that 2.11 million people live with HIV/AIDS in India in 2018,<sup>[2]</sup>

HIV and AIDS do not yet have cures. Once a person is infected with the virus, they cannot get rid of the virus. They can treat it and slow the progression of the disease.

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE-** review was collected and assessed under the heading-

- Review of literature regarding AIDS incidence, no. of review 15.
- Review of literature regarding knowledge and attitude, no. of review 25.

## METHODOLOGY

**Research Approach-** Quantitative Approach was used for the study

**Research Design** -Survey Research Design was suitable for the study

**Study Population**-In this study, College students were the study population.

**Sample and sample size**-100students who were studying InNims Nursing College were selected with convenient sampling technique

**Inclusion Criteria-**

- College Students
- Both males and females

**Exclusion Criteria-** Students who was not willing to participate

**Tool-** self structured questionnaire was prepared by researcher .it was divided in three .part. Part one contains demographic data. Part two contained knowledge questionnaire about HIV/AIDS part three contained attitude scale. It was validated by 7 subject experts, one language expert and one medical officer

**Data Collection Method-** The data was collected by both faces to face interview and by questionnaire supply.

**Sampling Technique**In this study convenient sampling was followed.

**Data collecting period-**The duration of data collection was about five months that started from December 2018.

## RESULT

The survey was based on the knowledge, and attitude towards HIV/AIDS. This study conducted onto 100 students Nims Nursing College Jaipur. Most of the students were among ages of 17-19 (60%) and 19-21 years (40%).

Majority population was male 78 % whereas the female was 22 %. In this study majority of the students 62% were from B.Sc. 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 26 % from 1<sup>st</sup> year remaining were from 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> year .

Most of students (68%) were Hindu, 28% were Muslim and remain were others.

In this study all students informed that they heard about the term HIV/AIDS. From the study, the majority of information is media 73% and Educational institute 22% and 5% from others sources.

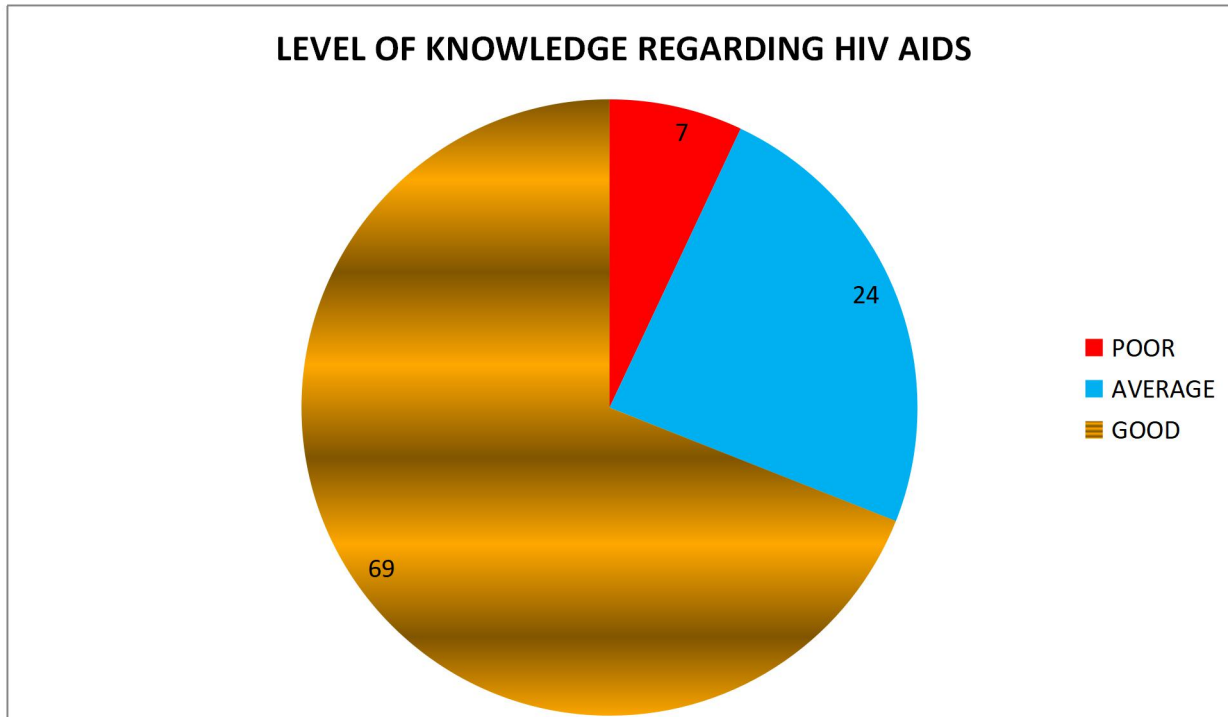
Gupta *et al.*, (2013) found majority of the Indian secondary school students (85.0%) heard HIV/AIDS from television, followed by the newspaper and friends/relatives (39.5%). In this study 58.8% student confirmed there was difference between HIV and AIDS.

In this study, most respondents (96 %) supported that HIV can be transmitted by unprotected sex, followed by blood transfusion (91 %), sharing infected needles or syringe (79%), fetal transfusion (68%) and breast feeding (62%)..

In this study ,some students who had misconception about transmission of HIV/AIDS. They told HIV/ AIDS can be spread by mosquitoes bites (26%), shaking hand (6%), drinking and eating on same glass or plate (8%), wearing same cloth (3%), sharing toilet with infected person (10%),

In this study, most of the people had better knowledge about prevention of HIV/ AIDS. About 95% and 75% population informed that condom use and single partner, was prevention of HIV transmission respectively

Overall 69% students had good knowledge 24% have average knowledge and only 7% have poor knowledge about HIV/AIDS. Mean knowledge score was 21.45 and mean % was 73.96. the standard deviation was 6.2



93 % students had positive attitude toward the patient they were believe that patient with HIV/AIDS should be provided proper care and respect.. Only 7% students said that aids patient should be segregated from society

### Conclusion

In this study, a significant level of awareness with some misconception towards HIV/AIDS among college students in Jaipur city. To reduce themisconception, Education and intervention programs are needed to increase the level of knowledge and awareness of HIV/AIDS. As we found some students who do not have enough knowledge about HIV/AIDS, Government should be more active to increase the knowledge level of college students. The mass media and educational institute should give proper knowledge about misconception as well as actual knowledge of HIV/AIDS.

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