

## ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE OF TEENAGERS REGARDING HIV/AIDS AT KANPUR

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### ABSTRACT :

*Research question : What is the level of knowledge among teenagers regarding HIV/AIDS.*

*Study design : Cross-Sectional.*

*Participants : 113 students from various Govt. Higher secondary Schools, Kanpur Nagar.*

*Statistical Analysis : Percentage.*

*Results : Among the study subjects 95% males and 90.38% females had ever heard about HIV/AIDS. Knowledge about viral etiology of the disease was higher among males (81.96%) than the females (75.0%). Regarding mode of transmission of the disease, males knew better than females about transmission through unprotected sex (45.90%, 30.76%), unsterilized razors (16.93%, 15.38%), untested blood transfusion (13.11%, 17.30%) and unsterilized syringes (11.47%, 9.61%).*

*Conclusion : Teenagers require more awareness regarding the deadly disease, HIV/AIDS.*

### Introduction :

Adolescents are also known as teenagers and adolescence is period of transition from childhood to adulthood. It is the period of life between age of 10-19 years<sup>1</sup>. Physical, mental, social and behavioral changes affect this age and work as foundation for future life.

HIV/AIDS pandemic has threatened the world in recent years even than number of new cases is being diagnosed without any end. Knowledge about the spread of HIV and safe sexual practices has a critical impact on the prevention of the AIDS, teenager are the most eligible targets. Considering teenager the suitable group for study and their need and

expectation regarding HIV/AIDS, the present study was planned at Kanpur.

### Material and Method :

A cross sectional study was planned using multistage random sampling technique for both boys and girls respondents from government higher secondary schools. Ist stage One boys and one girls government H.S. school were selected from all Govt. H.S. school of Kanpur. IInd stage- 11<sup>th</sup> class were selected among class 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> classes. All students both girls and boys of 11<sup>th</sup> class in different schools were contacted a interviewed through pretest and pre-designed questionnaire.

### Observations :

Table - 1  
Heard / about HIV/AIDS

S.NO.	Responses	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Yes	58	95.0	47	90.38	105	92.92
2	No	3	4.91	5	9.61	8	7.07
Total		61	100.0	52	100.0	113	100.0

**Table - 2**  
**HIV/AIDS is caused by**

S.NO.	Causes	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Viruses	50	81.96	39	75.0	89	78.76
2	Bacteria	3	4.91	5	9.61	8	7.07
3	Malnutrition	3	4.91	3	5.76	6	5.30
4	Biting by animal	1	1.63	2	3.84	3	2.65
5	Do not know	2	3.27	3	5.76	5	4.42
Total		61	100.0	52	100.0	113	100.0

**Table - 3**  
**HIV/AIDS is spread**

S.NO.	Modes of spread	Male		Female		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Mosquito bite	2	3.28	3	5.76	5	4.42
2	Untested blood transfusion	8	13.11	9	17.30	17	15.04
3	Unsterilized syringes	7	11.47	5	9.61	12	10.61
4	Unsterilized razor	10	16.39	8	15.38	18	15.92
5	Unprotected sex	28	45.90	16	30.76	44	38.93
6	By wearing other's cloth	4	6.55	8	15.38	12	10.61
7	Don't know	2	3.28	3	5.76	5	4.42
Total		61	100.0	52	100.0	113	100.0

**Result and Discussion :**

**Table-1** depicts that the knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS was more among males (95.0%) than females (90.38%). Similar findings were observed by Basavayya GS<sup>3</sup>.

**Table-2** shows that majority of the subjects (78.76%) know about the viral etiology of the disease and further this knowledge was better among males (81.96%) than females (75.00%). Basavayya GS<sup>3</sup> also observed the same.

**Table-3** show that 80.50% subjects know correct mode of transmission of the disease i.e unprotected sex (38.93%), unsterilized razors (15.92%), untested blood transfusion (15.04%), unsterilized syringes (10.61%). Among them, overall knowledge of males was better.

**Conclusion :**

Keeping in view high prevalence and

deadly nature of the infections disease HIV/AIDS among adolescents, there is a dire need to raise the level of awareness by formulating suitable strategies

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