

A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY OF KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE OF ANTIBIOTIC USE AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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INTRODUCTION:

The irrational use of antibiotics is a major reason for the spread of antibiotic resistance. There are several factors which may enhance the irrational antibiotic usage, based on the knowledge, attitude and practice of antibiotics administration. Considering these factors, this study was designed and conducted among the university students.

OBJECTIVE:

- To study the knowledge, attitude and practice of university students towards antibiotic use in Noida, Uttarpradesh.

METHODOLOGY:

A Descriptive Cross-sectional study was conducted amongst the 150 university students. A self-administered questionnaire was used to access the knowledge, attitude and practice of antibiotic use.

The basis for correct answer was selected from literature and clinical expert's knowledge. For assessing knowledge and attitude, each correct answer was awarded a score of 1 and each incorrect answer was awarded a score of 0. Quartiles were generated for each component. Based on quartiles, knowledge and attitude were divided into adequate and inadequate. Descriptive analysis was done with frequencies and summary statistics.

RESULTS:

Majority of study participants were female (70%). 45.3% students were in the age group of more than 24 years.

Overall, adequate knowledge and adequate attitude of antibiotic use was seen in 52.7% and 48% of students, respectively.

Based on the questions related to practice, it is revealed that 68.7% students had treated themselves once with antibiotics in the past one month. It was observed that 58% students never experienced any kind of adverse reaction after taking the antibiotics. Only 38% students always read the instructions in the package prior to taking antibiotics.

CONCLUSION:

There is a need for supervision on the sale of antibiotics without prescriptions. Deepening healthcare reform is highly necessary and there should be an emphasis on health education among the students.