



RESEARCH ARTICLE

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG B.TECH
STUDENTS AT SELECTED COLLEGES OF FARIDABAD

*Jyotsna Jacob

Assistant Professor, Amity College of Nursing, Amity University, Gurgaon, India

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 28th April, 2018
Received in revised form
07th May, 2018
Accepted 14th June, 2018
Published online 30th July, 2018

Key Words:

Knowledge,
Substance abuse,
B.Tech Students.

ABSTRACT

The problem of substance abuse is growing at an explosive rate and in just little over a decade it has spread its malevolent tentacles to every part of the global part. Hence a descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge on substance abuse among B.Tech students at selected colleges of Faridabad. Sample of 100 B.Tech students was taken using convenience sampling technique. Self structured questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge level. The findings of the study revealed that majority (36%) had average knowledge level, 33% had good knowledge level, 17% had excellent knowledge, 11% had poor knowledge and only 3% had very poor knowledge. The study also revealed that there was significant association found between level of knowledge with demographic variables like age and previous knowledge regarding substance abuse. No significant association was found between level of knowledge and other demographic variables.

Copyright © 2018, Jyotsna Jacob. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Citation: Jyotsna Jacob, 2018. "A study to assess the knowledge on substance abuse among b.tech students at selected colleges of faridabad", *International Journal of Current Research*, 10, (07), 71007-71009.

INTRODUCTION

Substance abuse is a social problem; not only in India but the entire world. The use of drugs has its own culture and history, which varies from country to country. The problem is growing very rapidly by crossing all barriers of race, caste, creed, religion, educational status, economic status etc. According to world drug report 2015, there are 90 million drug addicts in India. As per national survey on extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in India, the current prevalence rates within the age group of 12-18 years was alcohol (21.4%), cannabis (3%), opiates (0.7%) and any illicit drug (3.6%). Substance use includes the use of licit substance such as alcohol, tobacco, diversion of prescription drugs as well as illicit substance. Substance abuse, also known as drug abuse, is a patterned use of a substance (drug) in which the user consumes the substance in amounts or with methods neither approved nor supervised by medical professionals. Drug use and abuse is as old as mankind itself. Human beings have always had a desire to eat or drink substances that make them feel relaxed, stimulated or euphoric. The rising worldwide phenomenon of drug abuse among the younger generation, and in particular among students is an epidemic form that has been causing great public concern.

*Corresponding author: Jyotsna Jacob

Assistant Professor, Amity College of Nursing, Amity University, Gurgaon, India

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24941/ijcr.31429.07.2018>

It has already engulfed the vulnerable sections of societies in different parts of the globe. The population of India has reached over 1.2 billion (Government of India, 2011) and its culture, social values, demographics and economy is rapidly changing, and these stresses, family problems and social medias are having an impact on the people which causes an increasing use of illicit drugs and reported numbers point to over 3 million drug addicts in India. Substance abuse exacerbates tendencies for violence against family members, changes sexual relationships and enables spouses to take on unhealthy roles to continue the marriage. Research published in the journal "Clinical Psychology Review" warns that all types of substance abuse can increase the risk of violence and the strongest relationship to psychological, physical and sexual aggression. There is a high rate of suicide in alcoholics and other drug abusers. The reasons believed to cause the increased risk of suicide include the long-term abuse of alcohol and other drugs causing physiological distortion of brain chemistry as well as the social isolation. Substance abuse has a number of negative effects on a family, which include teaching the family apart, loss of employment, failure in school, increasing domestic violence, child abuse, and other crimes. It is a complex disorder that often has other significant physical, emotional and mental effects in the abuser and his family members. College students are the most vulnerable group and are at risk of drug abuse related problems as compared to other population.

The prevalence rate of drug abuse is highest among young adolescents and young adults, a majority of whom are students. As it is gaining gradual popularity among college students, it would be vital to examine their knowledge towards substance abuse.

Objectives of the study

- To assess the knowledge on substance abuse among B.Tech students.
- To find out the association between the level of knowledge on substance abuse with selected demographic variables.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research design: A non-experimental descriptive research design was adopted.

Subjects and setting: The sample comprised of total 100 B.Tech students studying in Lingayas University, Faridabad.

Sampling technique: The sample was selected by non probability convenience sampling technique.

Variables under study: Research variables under study include knowledge, substance abuse and B.Tech students. Inclusive criteria were B.Tech students between the age group of 17-25years, those who are willing to participate in study and are available during the period of data collection.

Description of Tool: The tools used in the study are divided into two sections.

Section A: Socio demographic characteristics of the participants in relation to their age, gender, year of study, religion, type of family, monthly income, bad habits, hobbies, source of knowledge regarding substance abuse.

Section B: Structured questionnaire for assessing the knowledge regarding substance abuse among B.Tech students.

Validity and reliability: Content validity was done by 7 experts from the field of psychology and nursing. On the basis of expert's suggestions, broad reviews of literature, following modifications were made in the final tool. The reliability of the tool was established by Cronbach Alpha Coefficient method and Split-Half Reliability coefficient.

Data Analysis: Data was analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics used include mean, frequency, percentage. Inferential statistics include Chi square.

RESULTS

Sample characteristics: Majority of the students (48%) were in the age group of 19-20 years. Male students (78%) outnumbered the female students. 67% of the students belonged to Hindu religion, 18% were Muslims, and 12% were Christians. In relation to the type of family, majority (58%) belonged to nuclear family whereas 37% were belonged to joint family. Most of the students (27%) had 20,001-30,000 per month family income. Majority of them (69%) had no bad habits such as smoking, alcohol etc.

Table 1. Percentage distribution of level of knowledge of B.Tech students regarding substance abuse

Level of knowledge	Percentage (%)	N=100	
		Mean	S.D
Very poor	3	0.03	4.5067
Poor	11	0.11	
Average	36	0.36	
Good	33	0.33	
Excellent	17	0.17	

On viewing their hobbies, 28% had hobbies of playing game, 24% had hobby of surfing internet while 17% had hobbies of watching T.V. considering their previous knowledge regarding substance abuse, 32% had knowledge from T.V, 24% had from internet and 11% had previous knowledge from newspaper and magazines.

Assessment of level of knowledge substance abuse: The data presented in above table depicts that majority had average (36%) knowledge regarding substance abuse, nearly similar number had good knowledge regarding substance abuse, 17% had excellent knowledge and only 3% had very poor knowledge regarding substance abuse.

Association of level of knowledge and selected demographic variables: The study revealed that there was significant association found between level of knowledge with demographic variables like age and previous knowledge regarding substance abuse. No significant association was found between level of knowledge and other demographic variables like gender, year of study, religion, type of family, monthly income, bad habits, hobbies.

DISCUSSION

Assessment of level of knowledge regarding substance abuse: The findings of the study revealed that the majority had average (36%) knowledge regarding substance abuse, nearly similar number had good knowledge regarding substance abuse and only 3% had very poor knowledge regarding substance abuse. A study was conducted on knowledge, attitude and perception of school going Adolescents regarding Substance and Drug Abuse in Bangladesh. The result indicated that both the sexes had fair level of knowledge on different aspects of drug abuse.

Association of level of knowledge and selected demographic variables: The study revealed that there was significant association found between level of knowledge with demographic variables like age and previous knowledge regarding substance abuse.

Conclusion

The findings of the study suggested that 36% of the students were having average knowledge whereas only 3% had very poor knowledge on substance knowledge. These findings revealed that the majority of them had basic knowledge regarding substance abuse and if right education would given on harmful effects of substance abuse in a right way by teachers and parents will help to reduce the remaining 14% of students who are having poor and very poor knowledge on substance abuse.

REFERENCES

- Madan C Paul. 2003. Drugs youth and society. An interdisciplinary study of causes and prevention of strategies: Madhu deep publication; New Delhi; Page no.
- Meena, Khanna P, Vohra AK, Rajput R. 2002. Prevalence and pattern of alcohol and substance abuse in urban areas of Rothak city. *Indian Journal of Psychiatry*, 44(40); 348-352.(5).
- Sharma RR. 2001. Knowledge of psychoactive substance use: disorders among college students. *Nursing Journal of India.*, 92: 29-30.(6)
- Syed Masud A, Akm Masud R, Shamim Matin C. 2001. Substance and Drug Abuse: Knowledge, Attitude and Perception of School going Adolescents in Bangladesh. BRAC Research and Evaluation Division.
- Tulu SK, Keski W. 2015. Assessment of Causes, Prevalence and Consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse among Mekelle University, CSSL 2nd Year Students. *Am J Applied Psychology*, 3: 47-56.
