

Knowledge, attitudes and risk perception of university students from the Pharmacy about AIDS

Abstract

The objective of this research was to analyze knowledge, attitudes and risk perception of university students from the Pharmacy about AIDS. A structured questionnaire was used, with questions divided in four areas: knowledge about the HIV identity, ways of transmission, prevention strategies, attitudes regarding AIDS and persons with AIDS, risk perception and demographic data. Eighty eight students answered the questionnaire. The average age of the participants was of 20, 6 years, and the majority was female. Most students had knowledge about HIV/AIDS, however, almost 40% did not know there was no vaccine against AIDS. As for the attitudes and risk perception regarding HIV/AIDS, the results are preoccupying; because more than 40% have answered that they are not at risk of getting AIDS. The students do not feel prepared to care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. Thus, it is necessary that the matter be treated as content cross during the academic.

Key-words: AIDS; Prevention; Epidemic; Knowledge.