

# To Assess the Level of Awareness on Problems of Drugs Dependence among Adolescent in Selected Area of Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh

Sweta Rawat<sup>1</sup>, Garima Rohilla<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Nursing Tutor, Mental Health Nursing, <sup>2</sup>Nursing Tutor, Child Health Nursing, Metro College of Nursing, Greater Noida UP, India

## Abstract

**Background:** Globally substance abuse is a major public health and social concern. With changes in lifestyle, globalization in substance marketing, the erosion of powers of censure that have existed in traditional societies, and an increased acceptance of such substances, it is clear that their use is growing in low and middle income countries, particularly in the children, adolescents and the youth<sup>1</sup>.

**Methods:** It was a descriptive study. Total 100 adolescents were selected using convenient sampling technique. Structured questionnaire was used to collect the demographic characteristics & to assess the level of awareness on problems of drug dependence among adolescents in selected area.

**Results:** the findings of study revealed that only 4% of adolescents had excellent awareness, 38% of adolescents had good awareness, 44% of adolescents had average awareness, 14% of adolescents had poor awareness regarding ill effects of substance abuse.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that there is a need to spread awareness about the drugs dependence & its possible consequences using campaigns & awareness class. The findings of study reveals that most of adolescents are having average awareness regarding problems of drug dependence.

**Key Words:** Adolescents, Drug Dependence, Awareness

## Introduction

For years, human society has been challenged with substance abuse and sustained notable financial and spiritual losses. India too is caught in this vicious circle of drug abuse, and the numbers of drug addicts are increasing day by day<sup>2</sup>. The transition from adolescence to young adulthood is a crucial period in which experimentation with illicit drugs begins in

many cases. According to recent data, among those involved in drugs and substance abuse in India, 13.1 percent are below 20 years<sup>3</sup>.

## Materials and Methods

It was a Quantitative Research. The research design used is non- experimental research design. Inclusion criteria for the study were (a) adolescents who belongs to the age group to 12- 19 years, (b) who can read and write English or Hindi, (c) who were willing to participate and available during the time of data collection.

**Data Collection Procedure:** it was conducted in the month of August' 2021. After seeking formal

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### Corresponding Author:

Sweta Rawat

(Mental Health Nursing)

Tutor, Metro College of Nursing, Greater Noida,

Uttar Pradesh- 201308

Swetarawat661@gmail.com

written permission from the concerned authority. The informed written consent was also obtained from adolescents.

To assess the level of awareness on problems of drug dependence, total 100 samples were selected by using convenient sampling technique and informed consent was taken from the samples after informing them regarding the objectives and purpose of the study. Confidentiality of the samples was assure. A structured questionnaire consisting of closed ended questions which was given to the samples to assess level of awareness on problems of drug dependence among them, in the month of August' 2021.

### **Results**

The data collected was analysed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. The demographic data from the study samples revealed that majority of the samples 60 (60%) are in the age group >17 years, 70(70%) in degree class, 44(44%) of children's parents were of secondary education, 42 (42%) of children's Father's occupation was agriculture, 76 (76%) of children's Mother's were housewife, 30 (30%) of adolescent family income were 16000 or above, 68 (68%) were vegetarian, 72 (72%) of adolescents belongs to Hindu religion, 60 (60%) belongs to rural area, 34(34%) gain information regarding ill- effects of substance abuse from school teachers, 44 (44%) of adolescents had average awareness.

The above figure no. 1 showing criteria measures of awareness Score 4 % has excellent awareness score, 38% has good awareness score and 44 % has average awareness score and 14% have poor awareness drug dependence.

11. To determine the association between the level of awareness of adolescents with their selected demographic variables

The association between the level of score

and socio demographic variable. Based on the 2nd objective Chi-square test was used to associate the level of awareness and selected demographic variables. There is significance association between the level of scores and other demographic variables. The calculated chi-square values were more than the table value at the 0.05 level of significance in age in years, mother's occupation, diet, religion and place of residence. This means that adolescents of age group 16-17 years has more awareness about drug dependence. The adolescents whose mother are doing govt. job has more awareness than others. Vegetarians, hindu religion, and living in rural area has significant difference of awareness than others.

### **Discussion**

The present study assessed the level of awareness on problems of drugs dependence among adolescents in selected area of Gautam budhnagar, Uttar Pradesh. Major findings of the present study had been discussed with the reference of results obtained by the researcher in the same aspect and it is seen that adolescents of age group 16-17 years had more awareness regarding drug dependence

### **Limitations**

The present study was confined to small number of subjects within the limited settings which limits the generalization of findings.

### **Conclusion**

It is concluded that 22 (44%) adolescents had average awareness, 7 (14%) adolescents had poor awareness and only 19 (38%) adolescents had good awareness and 2 (4%) had excellent awareness regarding ill-effects of substance abuse. The main source of information among adolescents was school teachers. The calculated chi-square values were more than the table value at the 0.05 level of significance in age in years, mother's occupation, diet, religion and

place of residence. This means that adolescents of age group 16-17 years had more awareness regarding drug dependence. The adolescents whose mother are doing govt. job has more awareness than others. Vegetarians, hindu religion, and living in rural area has significant difference of awareness than others.

### **Implications**

The findings and discussions of the study mentioned previously have recognized many implications in the following fields :-

1. In nursing education, students should be enlightened with adequate awareness regarding drug dependence
2. Since Drug dependence is very major problem which can lead to mental conditions, therefore it is recommended for public health nurses and other health care providers to impart health education to all

age groups as well as the general public in schools and community settings regarding drug dependence.

3. Nurse administrators should organize a health camp at various schools and colleges where parents of the students are also invited.

4. Promote more research on the drug dependence, its prevention and include their association with demographic variables.

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