



**A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude on HIV and AIDS among Truck Drivers in Pune City with a View to Develop Information Booklet**

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## Abstract

The present study highlights the need to assess the knowledge and attitude on HIV and AIDS among Truck drivers in Pune city with a view to develop information booklet. 100 samples were selected by purposive sampling technique. Data was collected using self structured questionnaire assessing the knowledge and likert scale to assess the attitude. The data was analysed and interpreted by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Majority (80%) of the Truck drivers had average knowledge, 6% of them had excellent knowledge and 14% of them had poor knowledge. Majority 96% of the Truck drivers had positive knowledge in and 4% of them had Negative attitude.

**Keywords** HIV, Aids, Truck, Drivers

## Introduction

According to WHO at the end of 2012, almost 75 million people have been infected with the HIV virus and about 36 million people have died of HIV. Globally, 35.3 million [32.2–38.8 million] people were living with HIV. An estimated 0.8% of adults aged 15–49 years worldwide are living with HIV, although the burden of the epidemic continues to vary considerably between countries and regions. Sub-Saharan Africa remains most severely affected, with nearly 1 in every 20 adults living with HIV and accounting for 71% of the people living with HIV worldwide<sup>(1)</sup>.

The Government of India estimates that about 2.40 million Indians are living with HIV at end of 2012 (1.93 -3.04 million) with an adult prevalence of 0.31%. Maharashtra has reported the 2<sup>nd</sup> most HIV and AIDS cases in India and has the highest documented HIV prevalence level in numerous population groups<sup>(2)</sup>.

Life of Truck drivers is very harsh, hard and hazardous. There is hardly any source of entertainment. It is day-in-day-out driving. When they stop, they drink, dine and have sex with women. Then, they transfer HIV from urban to rural settings. Thus Truck drivers constitute a very high-risk group for acquiring as well as spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs locally and over distant areas<sup>(3)</sup>.

## Objectives

- To assess the knowledge of Truck drivers regarding HIV & AIDS.
- To assess the attitude of Truck drivers regarding HIV & AIDS.
- To correlate knowledge and attitude of the Truck drivers regarding HIV and AIDS.
- To find out association between the knowledge level of Truck drivers and selected demographic variables.



- To find out association between the attitude and selected demographic variables.

### **Methodology**

Descriptive research design was used for the study conducted in selected transport centers in Pune city. The participants consisted of subjects who could understand Marathi and who worked in selected transport centres. The 100 participants were selected with using of purposive sampling. The tool used consisted of three sections- Section I consisted of questions related to the demographic variables and Section II consisted of knowledge related questionnaire and Section III consisted of likert scale assessing attitude.

### **Results**

Majority of (80%) of the Truck driver had average knowledge (Score 5-9) in (6%) of them had good knowledge (Score 10-13) and 14% of them had poor knowledge (Score 0-4).

Majority (96%) of the Truck drivers had positive knowledge (Score >42) in (4%) of them had Negative attitude (Score 1-42). There is mild positive correlation between knowledge and attitude ( $r = 0.15$ ). Income and marital status are the demographic variables which were found to have significant association with knowledge of the Truck drivers regarding HIV/AIDS.

### **Recommendation**

1. Replication of the study could be done with a larger sample to validate and generalize the findings.
2. An interventional study can be conducted to assess the effect of SIM on HIV and AIDS on knowledge and attitude of Truck drivers.
3. A comparative study to see the effect of SIM and Planned Teaching programme on knowledge and attitude on HIV and AIDS
4. A similar study may be conducted using visual aid teaching on knowledge of HIV among Truck drivers
5. A study may be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of planned health teaching versus other methods of health teaching on the similar problem.

### **Conclusion**

The study concluded that Truck drivers who participated in the study possess basic knowledge related HIV and AIDS had average knowledge, although majority of positive attitude on HIV and AIDS.



## References

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