

The Level of Knowledge about HIV/AIDS among Young People

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Abstract. HIV/AIDS is a global pandemic infection. At the end of 2007, 33.2 million individuals were living with HIV infection (range: 30.6–36.1 million) according to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). More than 95% of people living with HIV/AIDS reside in low- and middle-income countries; ~50% are female, and 2.5 million are children <15 years. HIV infection is now the major infectious disease problem in the world. Since sexual contact is a common mode of transmission, primary prevention relies on eliminating unsafe sexual behaviour by promoting abstinence, later onset of first sexual activity, decreased number of partners and use of latex condoms. The aim of this study is to introduce the level of knowledge about HIV/AIDS among young people and the problems they face. We have prepared and delivered a short questionnaire of information about HIV/AIDS, the youth lifestyle and their sexual behaviours at high schools and at the university in Shkodra city. The questionnaire is managed with the support of the schools directories and helped by the teachers during October-November 2012. In this study are involved 150 students (75 from high schools and 75 from university) from 16 - 22 years old and the data are calculated with Microsoft word excel 2007.

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