

ABSTRACT

The Level of Compliance of Individuals Screened by The Heart Foundation of Jamaica

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This study was conducted on persons who attended The Heart Foundation for screening for cardiovascular disease. The study was done so as to determine the level of compliance among respondents who were given advice/treatment as a result of this visit.

Two questionnaires were administered to gather data. The first questionnaire was administered when the respondent visited The Heart Foundation of Jamaica clinic. This questionnaire collected demographic data and information on the respondents knowledge about the risk factors for the development of heart disease. The second questionnaire was sent to the respondents three weeks after they received their medical results. The second questionnaire sought to ascertain what treatment/advice if any the respondents had been given and whether or not it had been complied with.

A total of 145 persons completed the first questionnaire. Seventy one percent of the sample was female. Of the 145 respondents, (33 persons - 22.8%) were between 50 - 59 years old although ages ranged

from 4-94 years. Seventy nine respondents (54.5%) were educated up to the level of primary/all age school. Most of the respondents correctly identified the risk factors that could lead to the development of heart disease.

Only 65 (45.5%) returned the second questionnaire which had been sent by mail with a stamped, self addressed envelope enclosed. Of these 65 persons 32 (49.2%) had been given further advice/treatment. Most of these respondents (78.1%) complied to the treatment/advice that was given.

In this study, no association was found between level of compliance and knowledge of risk factors, family support, educational level, gender and social class. Also age did not influence compliance.

Of the respondents to the second questionnaire, 90.8% (59 persons) felt that they had benefited by using the services offered by The Heart Foundation of Jamaica.