

ABSTRACT

The Knowledge Attitude and Practice of Students in Montego Bay High Schools Towards HIV/AIDS

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The HIV infection has affected countries worldwide and has impacted greatly on developing countries. In countries where there is a high incidence young people become vulnerable to the transmission. Therefore young people must be an important target in the prevention strategy, geared at reducing the rate of infection.

This research seeks to explore the Knowledge Attitude and Practice of young people in schools in Montego Bay an area that has the highest incidence of HIV in Jamaica.

A cross-sectional study was conducted with the use of self administered questionnaire to gather information from one hundred and eighty (180) students in three high schools in Montego Bay.

A high level of knowledge was demonstrated by the students with regards to transmission; methods of prevention and incubation period of HIV. Their attitude and practice towards some issues sometimes varied among the gender.

Students were knowledgeable on the key issues in the study however they need to develop better negotiation skills and to develop positive peer pressure.