

Attitude and Practices about Blood Donation among Undergraduate Medical Students in Karachi

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Abstract

Background: Blood donation is a major concern to the society as donated blood is lifesaving for individuals who need it. In Pakistan, the concept of voluntary blood donors is almost non-existent due to the absence of blood donor motivation and retention strategies. The healthy, active and receptive huge student population can be potential blood donor to meet the safe blood requirements. The objective of this study was to determine the knowledge, attitude and practices about blood donation among undergraduate medical students in Karachi.

Methods: A cross sectional study was conducted in two public and one private medical college in Karachi from January to March 2012. A total of 600 medical students were interviewed with the help of structured questionnaire. Data analysis was performed in SPSS version 19. Multiple regressions were used to examine the effect of different

Results: Knowledge, attitude and practices about blood donation among undergraduate medical students in Karachi. J Infect Dis Ther 2: 134. doi:10.4172/2332-0877.1000134

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Keywords: Blood donation; Medical students; Knowledge; Attitude; Practices

Variables					

had appropriate knowledge regarding various aspect of blood donation (92.2%). There was no statistically significant difference between age groups, class year and place of residence regarding blood donation. Male gender (AOR: 2.0, 95% CI: 1.1-3.8) was associated with appropriate knowledge of blood donation when compared against female gender. Students of public sector medical colleges (AOR: 0.5, 95% CI: 0.2-0.8) were less likely of having appropriate knowledge of blood donation when compared against students of private sector medical colleges.

Table 3 showed attitude scale of blood donation among study participants. All the participants were questioned to assess their attitude towards blood donation and blood transfusion. The sum of responses was summarized as an attitude score and a logistic regression analysis was done for age, gender, class year, medical colleges and place of residence. There were no statistically significant difference between age group, class year and place of residence regarding blood donation. However, male gender (AOR: 1.5, 95% CI: 1.0-2.1) was associated with willingness for blood donation when compared against female gender.

Discussion

This study was conducted in order to obtain information and inputs from undergraduate students of medical colleges which will be useful in implementing relevant donor recruitment strategies because this

