

Effect of Audiovisual Quiz on Knowledge and Perceptions of Community Health Workers about HIV/AIDS in Mulshi Taluka of Pune

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Abstract

Community health workers (CHWs) are the members of community with average educational background with limited health care training. Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) act as an interface between community and government health system. HIV/AIDS is reported as one of the significant causes of morbidity and mortality across the country. All 60 ASHAs and 60 Anganwadi Workers in rural field practice area of Bharati Vidyapeeth University Medical College, Pune were included as study participants. A Structured pre-tested self administered questionnaire consisting of twenty true or false type of questions related to HIV/AIDS in local language (Marathi) was given to all study participants. It was followed by audiovisual quiz. The scoring system for each complete question was given for pre and post-intervention phase. The data was entered in Microsoft Office Excel Sheet and analyzed by using Paired t test. The significant change in the knowledge was found among participants about HIV/AIDS after applying intervention (Pre test mean marks = 6.18, Post test mean marks = 15.35, t value =28.58, p value < 0.001). It indicates that a simple audiovisual quiz can make significant change in knowledge and attitudes of community health workers about HIV/AIDS.

I. Introduction

Community health workers (CHWs) are the members of community with average educational background with limited health care training (Zulfiqar A. Bhutta et al.). Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) act as an interface between community and government health system.

They provide community support and participate in various health related activities like immunization, nutrition education, maternal and child health services, health education especially about communicable and non-communicable diseases etc. (K. PARK). HIV/AIDS is reported as one of the significant causes of morbidity and mortality across the country. (J.Kishore).

The study has reported that the knowledge of CHWs regarding HIV/AIDS was observed to be poor (Timilshina N et al., 2013). Therefore there is strong need to educate CHWs about different aspects of HIV/AIDS. Public health experts opine that trained CHWs can sensitize community people about HIV/AIDS which in turn will help to reduce the burden of it in country.

The present study was done to assess the impact of simple intervention in the form of Audiovisual Quiz on the knowledge levels and attitudes of CHWs regarding HIV/AIDS.

II. Material and Methods

An Institutional Ethics Committee approval was taken (Ref: BVDU/MC/29). All 60 ASHAs and 60 Anganwadi Workers in rural field practice area of Bharati Vidyapeeth University Medical College, Pune were included as study participants. Written informed consent was taken from participants. All the participants were approached during their periodical meetings at health centres with the help of a social workers and stakeholders of communities.

Each group of 60 ASHAs and 60 Anganwadi workers were called separately on two different days at health centre. A Structured pre-tested self administered questionnaire consisting of twenty true or false type of questions related to HIV/AIDS in local language (Marathi) was given to all study participants. Ten questions were related to knowledge and 10 questions were related to attitude. It was followed by audiovisual quiz. Amongst present

study participants, four teams were selected on voluntary basis as participant teams.

Each team consisted of two persons. Remaining participants were participated as target audience. Three rounds were conducted in quiz. They were 'Correct option selection', 'Answer in one word' and 'Rapid fire response'. The marking system was assigned for all three rounds i.e. one mark for correct answer and zero mark for incorrect answer. One extra mark was awarded for the team who gave the correct answer for passed question in quiz competition. Quiz was followed by interactive session where all the queries raised by participants were dealt by facilitators. The scoring system for each complete question was given for pre and post-intervention phase. The data was entered in Microsoft Office Excel Sheet and analyzed by using Paired t test.

III. Results

In present study, 120 participants were included in the study, of which 60 were ASHAs and 60 were Anganwadi workers. Age range of all participants was in between 25-40 years. The majority (98%) of participants were educated up to secondary level. The significant change in the knowledge was found among participants about HIV/AIDS after applying intervention (Pre test mean marks = 6.18, Post test mean marks = 15.35, t value =28.58, p value < 0.001). All 120 (100%) participants had favourable attitudes towards HIV/AIDS after an application of audiovisual quiz.

Table 1: Knowledge of Study Participants about HIV/AIDS

Question	No of participants with correct pre-test response (%)	No of participants with correct post-test response (%)
HIV is a hereditary disease	98 (81.66%)	120 (100%)
HIV can not be transmitted through vertically	25 (20.83%)	115 (95.83%)
HIV is not transmitted through food	100 (83.33%)	120 (100%)
HIV can be completely cured	85 (70.83%)	120 (100%)
HIV/AIDS infected person can be identified by physical appearance	92(76.66)	120 (100%)
There is no effective vaccine for HIV/AIDS	85 (70.83%)	120(100%)
HIV can be transmitted through handshaking	99 (82.5%)	119(99.16)
HIV/AIDS can be transmitted through breast feeding	101(84.16%)	118 (98.33%)
Risk of tuberculosis is more in HIV positive patients	88(73.33%)	120 (100%)
AIDS infected person can get more opportunistic infections	110(91.66%)	120 (100%)

IV. Discussion

Before application of audiovisual quiz, 25 (20.83%) participants felt that HIV can not be transmitted through vertical transmission but after quiz 115 (95.83%) participants agreed that vertical transmission is one of the modes of HIV transmission. Ninety eight (81.66%) participants believed that HIV is a hereditary disease but after Quiz, all 120 (100%) participants knew that HIV has no hereditary origin.

Only 101(84.16%) participants knew ‘Breast feeding’ as possible mode for transmission for HIV/AIDS. Comparatively poor knowledge was found in a study done by Kushwah SS et al. where only 10.2% of participants were aware that breast feeding as possible mode of HIV transmission. Kermodé et al. also reported less knowledge among health care workers about this fact.

Before an intervention, 97(80.83%) participants had negative social attitude towards HIV infected persons, like they should not be touched and should not be mingled with other people. But after quiz, all 120 (100%) participants showed favourable attitude towards HIV positive people indicating that there is no harm in mixing with them and it is harmless. Sudhakar C and Jain AJ also reported positive attitudes of participants for HIV positive people after an intervention.

V. Conclusion

Present study reported significant enhancement in the knowledge of ASHAs and Anganwadi Workers regarding various aspects of HIV/AIDS from pre to post intervention as a result of Audiovisual Quiz. It indicates that a simple audiovisual quiz can make significant change in knowledge and attitudes of community health workers about HIV/AIDS.

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