

Associates of comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge and acceptance attitude among male youth aged 15-24: Comparison study among Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Gabon

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Abstract

Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Gabon are the highly HIV/AIDS prevalent West African countries. However, studies show that nationally representative or comparative studies had never been done. Hence, this study was focused on associates of comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge and acceptance attitude towards people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA) among male youth of the three countries and comparison among them. We utilized nationally representative datasets from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) of Ivory Coast 2011-12, Cameroon 2011 and Gabon 2012. A total of 6576 youth; 1811 (27.5%) Ivorian, 2803 (42.6%) Cameroonian and 1962 (29.8%) Gabonese was taken. We used IBM SPSS version 22 to run multivariate logistic regression taking p-values less than 0.05 as significant. The comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS and acceptance attitude in all the three countries were nearly below average; especially knowledge in Ivory Coast (39.1%) and attitude in Gabon (21%) were very low. On multivariate analysis, only age, residence, educational level and wealth index were significant associates of comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge. On the other hand, age, religion, educational level and wealth index were significant associates of acceptance attitude. On comparison, Gabonese were 1.5 times more likely to have comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge than Ivorians (AOR=1.50, P<0.001). However, Ivorians 1.18 (AOR=0.85, P=0.032) and Cameroonians 1.26 (AOR=1.26, P=0.001) times more likely to have acceptance attitude than Gabonese. Comprehensive HIV/AIDS knowledge and acceptance attitude towards PLHA in the three countries and specifically, acceptance attitude in Gabon was considerably low. Hence, it is crucial to give emphasis of planning policy of transmitting information to youth in a contextually applicable to socio-cultural differences.

Biography

Minet Tesfai Hadish is a Master's student from School of Nursing, Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, China. He has graduated his Bachelor Science in Nursing (BSN) from School of Nursing, Asmara College of Health Sciences, Asmara, Eritrea in 2010 and won Gold Medal. He has worked in the same college for six years as an Assistant Lecturer, as Member of the executive committee for research coordination of the school of nursing and the college and in close association with BDHO; the Eritrean National HIV/AIDS Association as Trainer and Consultant.