KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS TO SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES IN HUNGARY

Akinola PS[1], Csernák G[2], Takács K[2], Gyergyák K[2], Far G[2], Illyés-Kovács A[2], Stromájer-Rácz T[3], Boncz I[4], Turcsán J[2]

1. BSc student, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary
2. Institute of Nursing Sciences, Basic Health Sciences and Health Visiting, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary
3. Institute of Diagnostics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Kaposvár, Hungary
4. Institute for Health Insurance, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary

OBJECTIVES

Adolescents, accounting for 25% of the sexually active population, are the most affected by sexually transmitted disease (STD). To explore and assess the knowledge and attitudes of college students in Hungary to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

METHODS

This study used a descriptive, cross-sectional study design. A questionnaire was administered to 306 university students (187 domestic, 119 international) currently studying at University of Pecs. Data collected involved the students' awareness of STDs, knowledge of transmission modes of these infections and their sexual behaviors in addition to the respondents' social background characteristics. Data were downloaded and sorted, using Excel (version 2011 14.1.3) spreadsheet, and analyzed, using SPSS Statistics (version 22.1). The demographics and outcome variables were summarized using descriptive summary measures, expressed as means (SD) for continuous variables and percentage for categorical variables. Chi-square test was used to determine the test of association between the categorical variables. All the statistical tests were performed using two-sided tests at the 0.05 level of significance.

RESULTS

Approximately 93% knew that HIV/AIDS was a sexually transmitted disease, and the other three most recognized were syphilis (91.8%), herpes simplex infection (79%), and genital warts (71%) (Fig 1). There was a substantial gap in the level of knowledge of the international students and domestic students regarding STDs. Significant association was found between the faculty of study and the level of awareness among the international students (p=0.006), while it was the opposite for the domestic students (p=0.617). Confusion about the meaning of contraception and prevention was evident (Fig 2, 3, 4)

CONCLUSIONS

College students in Hungary are knowledgeable about sexually transmitted diseases and their modes of transmission. However, their knowledge about the preventive methods is limited.

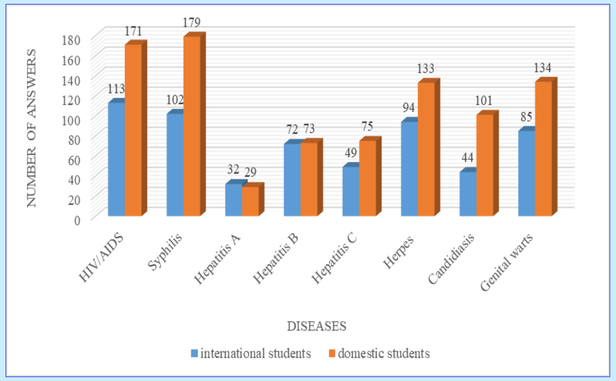


Figure 1.
Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Diseases Among College Students ($N_{domestic}$=895, $N_{international}$=591)

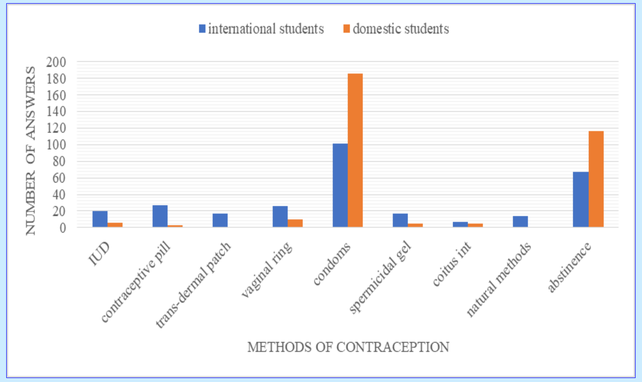


Figure 2.
Which means of contraception protect against STDS? ($N_{domestic}$=331 $N_{international}$=296)

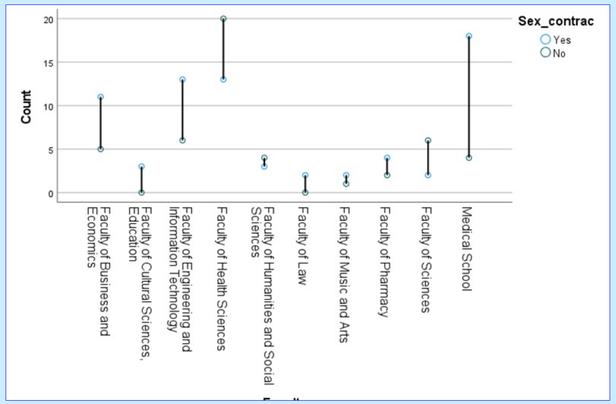


Figure 3.
Drop line graph showing the usage of contraceptive methods among the international students.

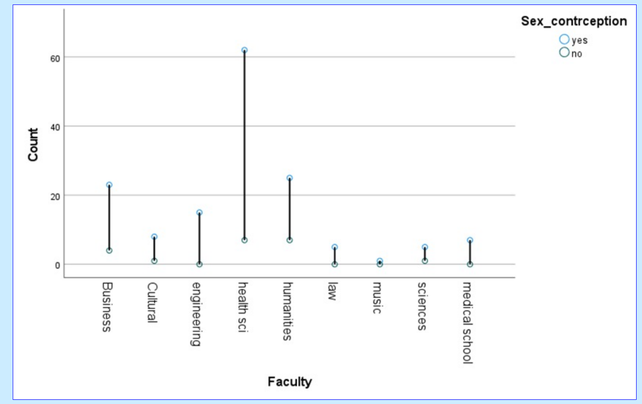


Figure 4.
Drop line graph showing the usage of contraceptive methods among the domestic students.

ISPOR 2022
May 15-18, 2022
Washington, DC, USA Area and Virtual

PÉCSI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

Funding:
The research was financed by the Thematic Excellence Program 2021 Health Sub-programme of the Ministry for Innovation and Technology in Hungary, within the framework of the EGA-10 project of the University of Pécs.

Corresponding author:
Dr. Imre BONCZ, MD, MSc, PhD, Habil
University of Pécs, Faculty of Health Sciences, Hungary
Institute for Health Insurance
E-mail: imre.boncz@etk.pte.hu

PCR 121
SZÉCHENYI 2020
HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT
European Union
European Social Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE