

Sexual behaviour and condom use among mobile male groups in border trade area of Northern Shan State

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Myanmar Health Research Congress, 2010

Abstract

The aim was to assess sexual behaviour and condom use in sexual relationships among mobile males in border trade area of Northern Shan State. A key factor in the sexual transmission of HIV is the lack of condom use in high risk sexual behaviour group. Mobile males who are away from their family and residing in hotels, motel, and inns are more potential to engage risky sexual behaviours than other males. Cross-sectional design was used. A sample of 287 mobile males were selected by probability proportionate to size sampling method and interviewed during March and April 2009 for condom use during risky sexual behaviour. About 41 out of 287 (14.3%), had risky sexual exposure during last trip to border area and 96 (33.4%) had risky sexual experience within last six months. About 93% of males used condom in last sex and 67.7% used condom within last six month. Barriers were, respondents thought it was not necessary (64.5%), dissatisfaction of sexual pleasure (51.6%), reduce sexual urge (48.4%), not easily available of condoms (45.2%), embarrassing to buy condoms (29%), difficult to discuss with partner (29%), delay orgasm (22.6%). Reasons for using condom were protection from AIDS (92.3%), protection from sexually transmitted diseases (89.2%), prevention of pregnancy (56.9%) and partner insistence (36.9%). Frequency of travelling to border trade area and high income of mobile males are associated with risky sexual behaviour. Fear of HIV/AIDS infection may explain condom use among males. To promote condom utilization, "fear- based" messages to community about HIV/AIDS should be given.