

Sexual behaviour and acceptance of condom use in male university students in Mandalay

Khin Wai, Maung Maung and Zaw Win Tun

Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar)

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Abstract

The aim was to assess the acceptability of condom use in sexual relationships with their partners among the university students who attended universities in Mandalay. A key factor in the sexual transmission of HIV is the lack of condom use in high risk sexual behaviour. Students who are away from their parents and residing in private hostels have more potential to engage risky sexual behaviors than others. Cross-sectional design was used. A sample of 302 males university students resided in private hostels were interviewed for condom use during risky sexual behavior, knowledge and attitude on male condom, and awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS by using structured questionnaires. 89(29.5%) students had been high risk behavior of premarital sexual experience. 61(68.5%) out of 89 students used condom during premarital sex. One in every three sexually active students failed to use a condom. Majority of students used condoms while having sex with CSWs. Students were asked barriers and reason for using condom by using multiple response questionnaires. Barriers were, lack of availability of condoms (57.1%), reduction of sexual urge (53.6%), thought it was not necessary (46.4%), embarrassing to buy condoms (35.7%), delay orgasm (10.7%), and dissatisfaction with sexual desire (7.1%) and cost (7.1%). Reasons for using condom were protection from AIDS (90.2%), protection from sexually transmitted diseases (63.9%), prevention of pregnancy (31.1%) and partner insistence (8.2%). High knowledge and awareness about HIV/AIDS had significant association with condom use. To promote condom utilization, "fear- based" messages to students about HIV/AIDS, should be given.