



## Assessment Of College Student's Awareness About Tuberculosis In U.P. (India)

Mrs. Pratibha Srivastava<sup>1\*</sup>, Dr. Archana Selvan<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1\*</sup>Ph.D scholar, Nursing, SRK University, Bhopal, M.P

<sup>2</sup>Dean and Principal, Department of Nursing, SRK University, Bhopal, M.P

**\*Corresponding Author:** Mrs. Pratibha Srivastava

*\*Ph.D scholar, Nursing, SRK University, Bhopal, M.P*

### ABSTRACT

Tuberculosis is an infectious communicable disease caused by mycobacterium tuberculosis and easily spread through droplets. According to WHO 2022 report approx. 10.6 million people across the world were diagnose with tuberculosis, 4.5% increased from 2020, while 1.6 million people died due to this disease. India accounting 2/3rd (68.3%) of total TB count. Tuberculosis is preventable and curable disease. TB stands as major community health problem due to ignorance, unawareness, lack of knowledge of people.<sup>1</sup>

So it is a primary responsibility of health workers to develop awareness about prevention, care and treatment of TB among community. This survey is based on assessing the awareness of TB among undergraduate students and postgraduate students of nonmedical stream in selected colleges in U.P. In present study total number of students participated in study were 530 students out of that 290 (54.71%) male and 240 (45.28%) were female. Study represents that male student's had higher awareness than female students. They had moderate knowledge about general awareness of TB, its symptoms, mode of transmission but very poor knowledge about treatment and diagnosis part of TB. Health workers should realize their role in health education programs in the community to improve the public awareness about the health burden diseases like tuberculosis.

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### Introduction:

Pulmonary tuberculosis is a global health problem that has become a global concern for the last two decades. One-third of the world's population has been infected with pulmonary tuberculosis. This causes pulmonary tuberculosis to become the second leading cause of death from infectious diseases in the world after Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/AIDS<sup>2</sup>. When people with pulmonary TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air. When one healthy person inhales only a few of these germs, they become infected. Tuberculosis disease is now a day completely curable and preventable disease if we take proper precautionary measures and treatment at appropriate time.<sup>3</sup>

## MATERIAL AND METHODS:

It was a descriptive study, survey method was used to collect data and convenient sampling technique used to select participants for the study. Total 530 P.G students were involved in this study. A well design 12 item questionnaires were developed with multiple choice options. For each correct response given 1 mark and incorrect response 0. Questionnaire were divided in three segments: First segment involved 6 questions were related to general awareness about Tuberculosis

, its sign and symptoms, mode of transmission, second segment were related to treatment part, dots therapy carries 4 questions and third segment were having 2 questions were related to diagnostic part of tuberculosis. The respondents were advised to give answers on the basis of their previous experience and knowledge about TB.

S. No.	Sex	No. of students	Correct Response(%)	Incorrect Response (%)
1	Male	290	55.35	44.65
2	Female	240	44.44	55.56

## RESULT:

From the result of survey awareness of TB were 55.35 % in male and 44.44 % in female. P.G. students on the basis of first segment of questionnaire it was found that 66.66 % students responded correct answer, on the basis of second segment of questionnaire 30 % students responded correct answer and on the basis of third segments of questionnaires 20% students responded correct answer. PG student's awareness were significantly higher related to general awareness about Tuberculosis i.e. its sign and symptoms, mode of transmission than treatment part, dots therapy and diagnostic part of Tuberculosis. In overall study we found that the knowledge regarding TB is higher in male than female. The survey results also revealed that both Male and female students possessed very poor knowledge about dots, treatment and diagnosis part of tuberculosis.

## Discussion:

In the present study, assessment of student's awareness about T.B. shown that PG students were having moderate knowledge level about general awareness of TB, its Symptoms and transmission while very poor knowledge about diagnosis and treatment part of TB. The goal of national health policy 2002 was to increase the awareness of T.B. in both educated and uneducated people. In 1959 government of India, with the help of WHO, established the National TB control Programme with the aim of establishing prompt awareness, diagnosis and ambulatory treatment which were integrated into general health services.<sup>4,5</sup>

## Conclusion:

In conclusion, our study findings indicate that for the upliftment of students' knowledge about T.B. Time to time Health education, assessment of knowledge based survey, organize various health programs, debates, seminars etc. in collaboration with hospitals, medical colleges, CHC, primary health centers which ultimately increase the awareness of T.B. among all students. If these measures are implanted successfully, it can increase the awareness of T.B. and ultimately T.B. free community can be created in India.<sup>6</sup>

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