

TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Vector-Borne Diseases: how well informed are our rural population?
Туре	Oral Presentation Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment
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Vector-borne diseases (VBDs) due to their sheer magnitude of the problem pose a significant threat to global public health. With most states in India being endemic to VBDs, the problem is that of a national one. The NVBDCP and other international agencies recognise that community knowledge and participation are crucial to controlling the menace of VBDs globally. AIM: This study was aimed to assess the knowledge regarding the vectors and vector-borne disease in Kaniyambadi block, Vellore district, Tamil Nadu, India. METHODOLOGY: A community based crosssectional study was conducted among 359 adults in the month of June 2019. A structured questionnaire was used to assess the sociodemographic details and knowledge regarding various vectors & vector-borne diseases. Two stage cluster-Content sampling method was used. Chi-square test was used to measure the association between two categorical variables, strength was assessed using Odd's ratio. Health Education was given post-interview. RESULTS: Majority of the study population were females of 18-30 age group. The prevalence of adequate knowledge about Vectors and Vector-borne disease is found to be only 16.8%. Educational status of the participant, High SES and access to technology were found to significant in bivariate analysis, however after adjusting, only participant's higher education [AOR: 2.236(1.159-4.317)] was found to be associated with better knowledge. CONCLUSION: The study revealed poor knowledge regarding the vectors and vector-borne diseases. Various health education interventions are needed to reduce the burden of vectorborne diseases in the community.

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