

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF COLLEGE GOING STUDENTS REGARDING HIV/AIDS IN  
SRINAGAR, JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

***ABSTRACT***

HIV and AIDS is a matter of concern because the number of cases has increased dramatically over the last 30 years. Students need to have appropriate knowledge and attitudes about HIV and AIDS because they are the future of nation, therefore will play a key role in prevention of spread and care of people with AIDS. The aim of the study was to explore the knowledge, behaviours and attitudes about HIV/AIDS of college students in Srinagar. A descriptive study was conducted over a sample of 300 educated adolescents selected at random from various Degree colleges of Srinagar. The results obtained in our study reveal that 91% of male students and 93% female students had heard about HIV/AIDS and students considered HIV/AIDS as a fatal disease. Further, the study reveals that college going students had adequate knowledge of the basic facts about HIV/AIDS, the transmission of HIV and how they can protect themselves. In order to increase the level of awareness, it is recommended that HIV education should be part of curriculum among all levels of educational institutions should play crucial role in preventing HIV/AIDS. Mass media or social media campaign cannot only raise the level of knowledge in college students but also in general public of the state.

**Keywords:** HIV, AIDS, knowledge, attitudes, sexual behaviour, Students, Srinagar