ISSN: 3029-0872

Review Article

Journal of Medical and Clinical Nursing Studies

Assessing the Knowledge and Attitudes of Employed Men in Sainshand Regarding HIV/AIDS and STIs

Otgon M*, Unubold Ye, Bolor-Erdene B and Odonchimeg B

Department of Nursing, Dornogobi Branch of the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences, Mongolia

***Corresponding author**
Otgon M, Department of Nursing, Dornogobi Branch of the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences, Mongolia.

Received: August 01, 2025; **Accepted:** August 07, 2025; **Published:** August 16, 2025

ABSTRACT

Background: Globally, over 1 million people contract sexually transmitted infections (STIs) daily, with approximately 500 million new cases annually. In Mongolia, 13 STI pathogens are diagnosed and treated, with four HIV infections registered nationally. In Dornogobi Province, STI incidence from 2017–2019 (27.7%) exceeded the national average (21.9%), with men comprising 43–54% of cases. This study assesses the knowledge, attitudes, and sexual behaviors related to HIV/AIDS and STIs among employed men in Sainshand, Dornogobi Province.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted using a random sampling method, involving 246 employed men aged 19–59 from 23 organizations in Sainshand. Data were collected via a 24-question survey across five categories and analyzed using SPSS 21.

Results: Participants' mean age was 32.22 ± 19.9 years. Knowledge assessment revealed that 68.7% (n=169) correctly identified that fidelity reduces STI transmission risk, 66.7% (n=164) knew STIs cannot be identified by appearance, and 57.3% (n=141) understood that HIV is not transmitted through casual contact. Information sources included healthcare workers (45.1%, n=111), the internet (37.4%, n=92), and media (21.5%, n=53). Of respondents, 58.9% (n=145) had undergone STI testing, with 7.3% (n=18) receiving positive results. Over the past 12 months, 3.3% (n=8) reported abnormal genital discharge and 1.2% (n=3) reported sores. Condom use during casual sexual encounters was reported by 48% (n=118), with 20.3% (n=50) having multiple partners. Reasons for not using condoms included dislike (28.5%, n=70) and trust in partners (19.1%, n=47). Participation in STI/HIV prevention activities was reported by 45.9% (n=113).

Conclusion: Knowledge of HIV/AIDS and STIs among employed men in Sainshand is inadequate, particularly among those aged 19–39. Low condom use and limited engagement in prevention activities highlight the need for enhanced, high-quality STI/HIV education programs in workplaces, with continuous evaluation of their impact.

Keywords: HIV/AIDS, STIs, Knowledge, Attitudes, Sainshand Dornogobi Mongolia

Introduction

Globally, over 1 million people contract sexually transmitted infections (STIs) daily, with approximately 500 million new cases annually. In Mongolia, 13 types of STI pathogens are diagnosed and treated, with four HIV infections registered in the national database to assess STI prevalence. STIs have a broad negative impact on public health, affecting individuals' sexual and reproductive health and influencing public health protection measures. In 2019, Mongolia reported 17.9 thousand STI cases nationwide, an increase of 2.5 thousand cases (16.4%) compared to the 10-year average and 1.7 thousand cases (10.8%) compared to the previous year. In Dornogobi Province, the STI incidence rate from 2017 to 2019 (27.7%) exceeded the national average (21.9%). Among these, men accounted for 43% of total STI cases in 2017, 50% in 2018, and 54% in 2019. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the knowledge, attitudes, and sexual behaviors related to STIs among men in Sainshand, Dornogobi Province.

Citation: Otgon M, Unubold Ye, Bolor-Erdene B, Odonchimeg B. Assessing the Knowledge and Attitudes of Employed Men in Sainshand Regarding HIV/AIDS and STIs. J Med Clin Nurs Stud. 2025. 3(4): 1-3. DOI: doi.org/10.61440/JMCNS.2025.v3.81

Aim

To determine the knowledge, attitudes, and sexual behaviors related to HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among employed men in Sainshand, Dornogobi Province.

Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge and attitudes regarding HIV/AIDS and STIs.
2. To identify the sexual behaviors and practices of men.

Methods

A cross-sectional study was conducted using a random sampling method. A questionnaire with 24 questions across five categories was administered to 246 men from 23 organizations in Sainshand, Dornogobi Province. Data were analyzed using SPSS 21 software.

Results

The study involved employed men aged 19–59 years, with n=246 and a mean age of 32.22 ± 19.9. By age group(Figure-1), those aged ≤20 years accounted for 0.4% (n=1), 20–29 years for 45.9% (n=113), 30–39 years for 30.9% (n=76), 40–49 years for 17.1% (n=42), and 50–59 years for 5.7% (n=14).

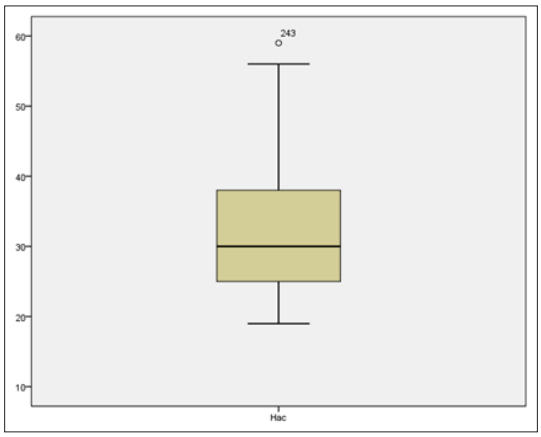

Figure 1: Age Group.

Of Of the study participants, 0.4% (n=1) had primary education, 21.5% (n=53) had incomplete secondary education, 37% (n=91) had complete secondary education, 15.9% (n=39) had vocational education, and 25.2% (n=62) had higher education. Regarding marital status, 11.8% (n=29) had a girlfriend, 23.1% (n=80) were unmarried, 55.7% (n=137) were married, and 2.8% (n=7) were cohabiting(Figure-2).

		Насны бүлэг				
		>20	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59
Education	Primary	-	-	-	1	-
	Incomplete	-	20	13	15	5
	secondary	-	38	27	19	6
	Complete seconadry	1	26	9	2	2
	Vocational Higher	-	29	27	5	1
Marital status	With girlfriend	1	23	5	1	-
	Unmarried	-	39	11	5	11
	Married	-	41	52	33	2
	Cohabiting	-	2	3	-	1
	No answer	-	8	5	3	-

Figure 2: Education, Marital Status and Numbers by Age Group.

When assessing the correct responses to knowledge questions about HIV, AIDS, and STIs, 68.7% (n=169) agreed that fidelity and having one sexual partner reduces the risk of infection, 66.7% (n=164) believed that an infected person can be identified by their appearance, and 57.3% (n=141) thought that HIV can be transmitted through shaking hands or sharing food with an infected person(Figure-3).

Questions	(Yes)	(No)	(Don't Know)
Have you heard of HIV, AIDS, or STIs?	93,1% (229)	6,9% (17)	-
Fidelity and one partner reduce infection risk	68,7% (169)	7,7% (19)	23,6% (58)
Does HIV/AIDS infection risk decrease?	4,5% (11)	66,7% (164)	28,5% (70)
Do you use protection during sexual intercourse?	14,2% (35)	57,3% (141)	28,4% (70)

Figure 3: Responses to Knowledge Assessment Questions on HIV, AIDS and STIs.

When asked about the sources of information on STIs, the majority reported obtaining it from healthcare workers at 45.1% (n=111), followed by the internet at 37.4% (n=92), and radio/ television at 21.5% (n=53) (Figure-4).

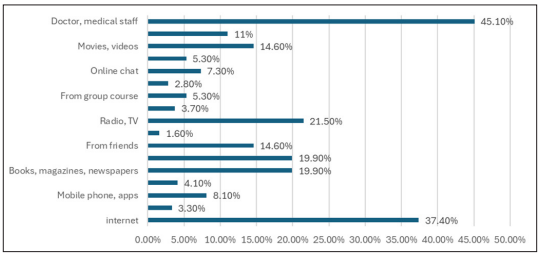

Figure 4: Status of Obtaining Information about STIs, by Percentage.

Of the study participants, 58.9% (n=145) had undergone STI testing, with 7.3% (n=18) receiving positive results. Over the past 12 months, 3.3% (n=8) reported abnormal discharge from the genital area, 1.2% (n=3) had sores or rashes on the genitals, and 1.6% (n=4) sought treatment due to these symptoms(Figure-5).

During casual sexual encounters, 48% (n=118) used a condom, and 20.3% (n=50) reported having sexual intercourse with two or more partners in the last 12 months. Among the reasons for not using a condom during sexual intercourse, 28.5% (n=70) disliked using condoms, 19.1% (n=47) trusted their sexual partner, 8.9% (n=22) could not find a condom at the time, 8.5%

(n=21) were intoxicated, and 6.9% (n=17) used other methods to prevent pregnancy.

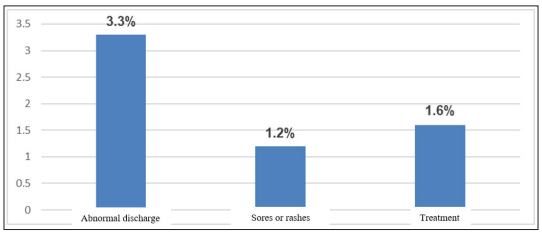

Figure 5: Symptoms

Of the participants, 45.9% (n=113) were involved in HIV and STI prevention activities. Among those who participated, 23.6% (n=58) attended training, 12.6% (n=31) underwent STI diagnosis and treatment, and 9.3% (n=23) participated in voluntary counseling and testing.

Conclusion

1. Knowledge about HIV, AIDS, and STIs is insufficient, with particular attention needed for young men aged 19–39.
2. Most men do not use condoms during casual sexual encounters and show low engagement in HIV and STI prevention activities. Therefore, it is necessary to organize high-quality training on HIV/AIDS and STIs in workplaces and continuously evaluate the outcomes of these training programs.

References

1. Kipp W, Tuli M, Bato B. Exploring the social and cultural context of sexual health for young people in Mongolia: implications for health promotion. Soc Sci Med. 2005. 60: 1059-1070.
2. Yasin F, Enkhtuya P, Badarch D, Sovd T, Mason K, et al. A cross-sectional evaluation of correlates of HIV testing practices among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Mongolia. AIDS Behav. 2013. 17: 1367-1375.
3. Takano M, Oyuntsetseg S, Erdenetsetseg T, Bat-Erdene B, Dorjgotov M, et al. Prevalence and incidence of HIV-1 infection in a community-based men who have sex with men (MSM) cohort in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Glob Health Med. 2020. 2: 374-380.
4. Ganbaatar T, Enkhmaa T, Batjargal J. Sexual and reproductive health knowledge and behavior among Mongolian youth. Int J Adolesc Med Health. 2018. 30: 20160123.
5. Enkhjargal B, Otgonbayar D, Munkhbat B. HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention practices among university students in Mongolia. Asia Pac J Public Health. 2016. 28: 435-443.
6. Tsogzolmaa D, Altantsetseg B, Enkhtuya P.Gender differences in sexual health knowledge and behavior among Mongolian adolescents. J Adolesc Health. 2019. 65: 389-395.
7. Batbayar O, Tserendolgor U, Erdenechimeg B. Impact of community-based interventions on STI prevention in rural Mongolia. Rural Remote Health. 2021. 21: 6432.
8. Kongnyuy EJ, Wiysonge CS, Mbu R. Knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding HIV/AIDS among senior secondary school students in Fako Division, Cameroon. Afr J AIDS Res. 2006. 5: 119-125.
9. Thanavanh B, Harun-Or-Rashid M, Kasuya H. Knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding HIV/AIDS among male high school students in Lao People's Democratic Republic. J Int AIDS Soc. 2013. 16: 17387.
10. Various authors. HIV related knowledge and practices among undergraduate students in Africa. J Infect Dev Ctries. 2024. 18: 245-253.
11. Various authors. Knowledge, attitudes and sexual behavior concerning AIDS among college students in Guangzhou, China. Chin J Public Health. 2025. 41: 321-328.
12. Various authors. Knowledge, attitudes and practices of young adults towards HIV prevention in South Africa. S Afr Med J. 2020. 110: 543-549.
13. Various authors. HIV/AIDS-related knowledge and attitudes toward people living with HIV among college students in Xuzhou, China. J AIDS Res Hum Retroviruses. 2024. 40: 134-141.