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The assessment of knowledge, attitude and practice of antibiotics usage among Saudi female students in Princess Nourah University (PNU)

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Background & Aim: Antibiotic misuse is one of the biggest major health problems worldwide. Awareness and good practice of antibiotic usage among females has a great influence to build- up in the healthy community. In this study, we analyzed the present status of Princess Nourha University (PNU) students Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) on the usage of antibiotics, and examined the influence of PNU medical curriculum on the appropriate usage of antibiotics among medical students.

Materials & Methods: In this study, a cross-sectional survey was conducted in Riyadh city. A total of 394 female students from PNU, aged 18-24 years, enrolling in medical school (M) and non-medical school (NM) were chosen as the subject of study. Respondents were surveyed to assess their knowledge, attitude and practice toward antibiotic usage.

Results: 77% of M has a good knowledge of the types of antibiotics whereas 36.6% of NM was unable to differentiate between antibiotics and pain-killers. A closely similar percentage of M (85.1%) and NM (81.0%) disagreed the universal principles of antibiotic use is not wide enough. A total of 96.3% of M and 97.2% of NM agreed that human body contains health-beneficial bacteria. Lastly, 77.6% of M and 74.9% of NM believed that newer and more expensive antibiotics would have better effect. The correlation in antibiotic usage without doctor's instruction by medical students is highly significant.

Conclusion: It is essential to develop educational interventions to correct the misuse and misunderstanding of antibiotics to be able to have a health educated community.

Biography

Mohamed N has completed his PhD from Uppsala University and Postdoctoral studies from Umeå University Faculty of Medicine. She is a Member of the Quality Assurance Committee. He has published more than 20 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of institutional review board.

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