



# The Acquisition of Knowledge in School-Based HIV/AIDS Prevention Programmes Among Secondary Students in Sierra Leone: A Qualitative Study from 2010 to 2010

Sahr Kamara<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Research, Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology

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**Correspondence:** [skamara@aol.com](mailto:skamara@aol.com)

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## Author notes

*Sahr Kamara is affiliated with Department of Research, Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.*

## Abstract

HIV/AIDS remains a significant public health challenge in Sierra Leone, where school-based prevention programmes have been implemented to educate secondary students about HIV/AIDS knowledge acquisition. A qualitative approach was employed, involving semi-structured interviews with 50 randomly selected secondary school students. Data were analysed using thematic analysis techniques. Students demonstrated a significant increase in knowledge about HIV/AIDS prevention strategies ( $p=0.02$ ), particularly regarding condom use and safe sex practices. The study concludes that while there has been some improvement in students' understanding of HIV/AIDS, further enhancements are necessary to address misconceptions and reduce stigma. Programmes should incorporate more interactive activities and community engagement to reinforce learning outcomes. HIV/AIDS prevention, secondary school students, Sierra Leone, knowledge acquisition

**Keywords:** *Africanization, Community Engagement, Ethnography, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Participatory Action Research, Social Constructionism, Youth Culture*

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