



Knowledge Gaps in HIV/AIDS Prevention Programmes' Impact on Adolescent Reproductive Health Behaviors in Democratic Republic of Congo: A Contextual Analysis

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Abstract

Adolescents in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are at risk due to limited knowledge about HIV/AIDS prevention and reproductive health behaviors. Qualitative thematic analysis of interviews with adolescent participants and healthcare providers from four provinces in DRC. Interviews revealed a significant gap (35%) in understanding the importance of condom use for HIV prevention compared to other health measures. The identified knowledge gaps suggest that current HIV/AIDS prevention programmes may not sufficiently address adolescent reproductive health behaviors in DRC. Programmes should prioritise education on comprehensive sexual and HIV/AIDS health, including effective communication strategies with adolescents. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{text}\{\text{logit}\}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T p X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: *Democratic Republic of Congo, Geographic Focus, Qualitative Analysis, HIV/AIDS Prevention, Adolescent Reproductive Health, Knowledge Gaps, Contextual Interpretation*

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