

# SEXUAL HEALTH KNOWLEDGE OF ADOLESCENTS IN A GREAT YARMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

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We recently participated in the Personal and Social Education (PSE) program of our local high school, using our website URL

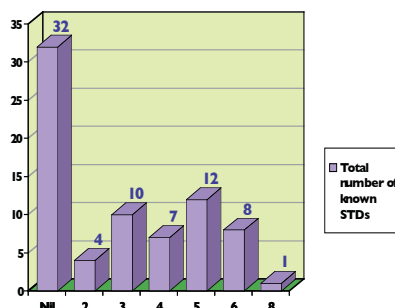
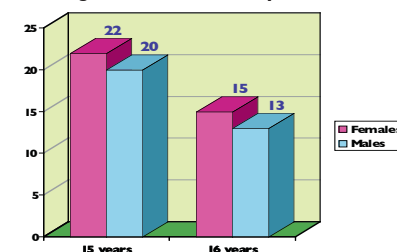
<http://www.bureclinic.com>

as a sexual health education tool.

Prior to the lecture a brief questionnaire was given to the pupils aged 15 & 16 years to complete anonymously.

Of the 74 pupils aged 15 and 16 years (mean age: boys 15.39 & girls 15.41) who participated in the use of a multimedia website as part of their PSE program; in response to the question . . .

Sex & Age Distribution of Respondents



**“How many STDs do you know?”** -

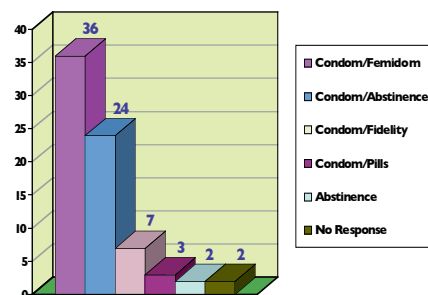
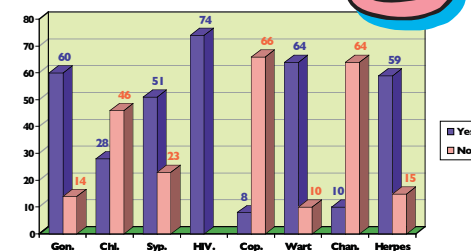
43.2% did not know any sexually transmitted disease (STD) and were probably unaware of sexually transmissible infection.

- Twenty-eight students representing 37.9% knew of 4 STDs or more.
- Almost twice as many girls (21) than boys (11) did not know any STDs ( $p=0.04$ ).

- Of those aged 15 & 16 years 17(22.9%) and 14(18.9%) respondents respectively did not know any STDs, while 17(22.9%) and 9(12.2%) respectively knew 4 or more STDs.

**When asked to indicate which were STDs?**

Of the respondents 82.2% thought gonorrhoea STD but only 37.8% considered chlamydia STD. All the respondents identified HIV as STD, but 68.9% syphilis, 86.5% warts, 68.9% herpes, 13.5% chancroid were respectively considered as STDs.



**When asked,**

**“How do you prevent STDs?”**,

- 36(48.6%) stated use of condoms/femidoms,
- 24(32.4%) stated condoms and abstinence,
- 3(4.1%) stated condoms and the contraceptive pills and only 2(2.7%) of the cohort considered abstinence, both boys aged 15 and 16 respectively.



By using our local prevalence on sexually transmitted infections, incorporated into an easily navigable multimedia website as a sexual health education tool pupils were encouraged to self learn about STDs and use the interactive online facilities to raise their concerns with the clinic, being assured of optimal access, and confidentiality.

