

KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES OF PHARMACY STUDENTS RELATED TO HEPATITIS B VIRUS

Petar Vrekić^{1*}, Andrijana Milošević Georgiev²

¹University of Belgrade – Faculty of Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, Belgrade, Serbia

²University of Belgrade – Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of Social Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Legislation, Belgrade, Serbia

*petarv92@gmail.com

Nowdays, many viral infections have become a major burden on public health. Hepatitis B is a potentially fatal disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV), which can be prevented by immunization (1). Therefore, the aim of the research was to assess the knowledge and attitudes of pharmacy students at the University of Belgrade regarding HBV. Two prospective cross-sectional studies were conducted during 2017. and 2022. using a purpose-built questionnaire. 583 students participated in the research, of which 300 in 2017. and 283 in 2022. Female students accounted for 77% vs 80%. 24% vs 20% knew which types of hepatitis exist, while 25% vs 35% believe that they received the vaccine at birth. 97% vs 98% think that as future health professionals they should have knowledge about the prevention of sexually transmitted infections, including HBV, while 18% vs 16% think they already acquired that knowledge. 57% vs 58% would vaccinate against HBV. A quarter of the respondents in 2017. and a fifth in 2022. believe that knowledge they acquired at the faculty about the transmission of HBV infection is adequate. The obtained results show that the knowledge of pharmacy students about HBV decreased in 2022. compared to 2017. although the faculty increases importance on this topic. Increased number of students who would vaccinate against HBV is encouraging. Therefore, it is necessary to emphasize the importance about risk, prevention and increase awareness of vaccination benefits for pharmacy students.

References

1. Benarji KA, Anitha A, Suresh B, Aparna V, Praveena A, Penumatsa LA. Knowledge and attitude of dental students toward hepatitis B virus and its vaccination - A cross-sectional study. J Oral Maxillofac Pathol. 2021 Sep-Dec;25(3):553.

ZNANJE I STAVOVI STUDENATA FARMACIJE U VEZI SA VIRUSOM HEPATITISA B

Petar Vrekić^{1*}, Andrijana Milošević Georgiev²

¹Univerzitet u Beogradu – Medicinski fakultet, Katedra za farmakologiju, kliničku farmakologiju i toksikologiju, Beograd, Srbija

²Univezitet u Beogradu – Farmaceuski fakultet, Katedra za socijalnu farmaciju i farmaceutsko zakonodavstvo, Beograd, Srbija

*petarv92@gmail.com

Većina svetske populacije pati od mnogih virusnih infekcija, koje su postale veliki teret za javno zdravlje. Hepatitis B je potencijalno fatalna bolest uzrokovana virusom hepatitisa B (HBV), koja se može sprečiti imunizacijom (1). S toga je cilj rada bio procena znanja i stavova studenata farmacije, Farmaceutskog fakulteta Univerziteta u Beogradu o HBV. Sprovedene su dve prospektivne studije preseka tokom 2017. i 2022. godine, pomoću namenski kreiranog upitnika. U istraživanju je učestvovalo ukupno 583 studenata, 300 studenata 2017. i 283 studenta 2022. godine. Studenti ženskog pola su činili 77% tj. 80% ispitanika. 24% odnosno 20% znalo je koje vrste hepatitisa postoje, dok 25% tj. 35% smatra da je vakcinu primilo na rođenju. 97% odnosno 98% smatra da kao budući zdravstveni radnici treba da imaju znanja o prevenciji polno prenosivih infekcija, poput HBV, dok 18% tj. 16% smatra da to znanje već poseduje. Osim toga, nešto više od polovine ispitanika (57% vs 58%) bi se vakcinisalo protiv HBV. Četvrtina ispitanika 2017. odnosno petina 2022. smatra da je znanje koje je steklo na fakultetu o prenosu infekcije HBV adekvatno. Dobijeni rezultati pokazuju da se znanje studenata farmacije o HBV smanjilo 2022. godine u odnosu na 2017. iako se na fakultetu pridaje sve veći značaj ovoj temi. Međutim, ohrabrujuće je povećanje broja studenata koji bi se vakcinisao protiv HBV. S toga potrebno je dodatno naglasiti značaj edukacije studenata farmacije o merama rizika i prevencije, ali i povećati svest o prednostima vakcinacije.

Literatura

1. Benarji KA, Anitha, Suresh B, Aparna V, Praveena A, Penumatsa LA. Knowledge and attitude of dental students toward hepatitis B virus and its vaccination - A cross-sectional study. J Oral Maxillofac Pathol. 2021 Sep-Dec;25(3):553.