

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIORAL  
RISK FACTORS  
ON REPRODUCTIVE TRACT INFECTION  
AMONG FACTORY WORKERS  
IN MONYWA INDUSTRIAL ZONE (2012)**

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## ABSTRACT

Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) is a generic term used to cover three types of infections namely sexually transmitted disease (and infection), endogenous vaginal infections and infections related to reproductive tract. This study was a factory based cross sectional descriptive study carried out among factory workers in Monywa Industrial Zone, Sagaing Region to assess knowledge, attitude and behavioral risk factors for RTIs. A total of 123 male and 87 female workers between ages of 18-57 years with the majority being primary education level were interviewed by using pre-tested semi-structured questionnaire.

Regarding source of information on RTIs, peers and neighbors were the main sources (97.6%) followed by television and video (65.2%). Knowledge about RTIs except HIV was low as total knowledge scores of the respondents got only 34.3% of maximum available scores. In transmission of HIV, sex without condom was known by 94.3% of respondents and all other modes of transmission were known by over 80% of the respondents except through intra venous drug (IVD) injection (77.6%). However, there were still misconceptions in which mosquito bite was the most prominent (37.6%). Positive attitudes were noticed in most of RTIs related statements but there were three negative attitudes which were perceived seriousness for RTIs (only 29.5% of the respondents agreed), shameful attitudes on diseases and condom. Extramarital sex was reported 15 out of 102 ever-married persons (14.7%) and premarital sex was also found in 38 out of 210 total respondents (18.1%). But condom usage among them was satisfactory (92.1%). Other non-sexual risk behaviors in this study were quite high. In this study, 39.5% of respondents had experienced any one of RTI symptoms. Among them 56 (67.5%) took treatment and only one respondent went to government hospital for treatment. The main reason for not going public sector was lack of perceived seriousness and susceptibility (64.7%).

There was statistically significant association between knowledge and attitude of the workers. Although it was not statistically significant, the better the attitude, the lesser the risk behaviors they have. There was a gap between knowledge and risk behaviors for RTIs. Education level was found to be significantly associated with all three of knowledge, attitude and risk behaviors for RTIs. So health education programmes should focus mainly on lower level education persons with appropriate strategies using peer education programme and dissemination through media and materials with simple and short information.