



Applicant Information

Applicant Name	Applicant Email	Affiliation	Country
Ms Emily Nugble	enugble@gmail.com	University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ho, Ghana	Ghana

Abstract Details

Title:

Contraception practices among in-school adolescents in the Hohoe Municipality of Ghana: a cross-sectional survey

Category:

Non-communicable diseases including mental health

Authors:

Nugble Emily¹, Forson Albert¹, Habadah Frank¹, Emmanuel Manu² ¹Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Fred N. Binka School of Public Health, University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ho, Ghana. ²Department of Population and Behavioural Sciences, Fred N. Binka School of Public Health, University of Health, and Allied Sciences, Ho, Ghana.

Objectives:

Adolescent sexual activity, low contraception use, and high teenage pregnancy rates in Ghana highlight the urgent need for comprehensive sexual education and improved access to family planning services. This is especially crucial for school-going adolescents. This study examined contraception practices among in-school adolescents in the Hohoe Municipality of Ghana.

Method:

The study employed a cross-sectional design involving 247 in-school adolescents. A multi-stage sampling technique was used to recruit the participants. Data was collected using a structured questionnaire via Kobo toolbox. Descriptive statistics were used for frequencies and percentages. Microsoft Excel version 2021 was used to create charts and tables. The required ethical principles were adhered to.

Results:

A total of 247 in-school adolescents participated in the study, with the majority (59.5%) being females. The mean age was 16 years. Among participants who engaged in sexual activity on campus (n=95), the majority (90.5%) used some form of contraceptive method, with most of them (38.4%) using condoms. Results showed that some participants used some forms of improvised methods with "lime and salt solution" being the majority (38.9%) and the least being "sugar and salt solution" (5.5%).

Conclusion:

The contraceptive prevalence rate among sexually active adolescents who had sex in school in the Hohoe Municipality was high. Some still resorted to improvised methods. This may be because of obstacles to accessing contraceptives in schools. We recommend strengthening sexual education in schools to address myths surrounding the usage of improvised contraceptive methods while improving access to modern contraceptives for in-school adolescents.

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