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TAARIFA KWA UMMA

KANUSHO LA CHAPISHO LENYE TAKWIMU ZISIZO SAHIHI JUU YA MAAMBUKIZI YA VVU NCHINI

Agosti 23, 2024 – Dodoma.

Wizara ya Afya imebaini kuwepo kwa chapisho potofu linaloitwa "**Sexual Behaviors and HIV Status: A Population-Based Study among Youths and Adults in Tanzania**" lililochapishwa na mhariri wa jarida la '**Journal of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology Volume 7 | Issue 8**'
DOI:10.23937/2474-3658/1510224 la mwaka 2021 linalosambazwa katika mitandao ya kijamii.

Chapisho hilo limetoa takwimu za uongo kuhusu kiwango cha maambukizi ya Virusi Vya Ukimwi nchini Tanzania kuwa ni 80%.

Waandaaji wa chapisho hilo hawajawahi kufanya tafiti nchini Tanzania na wamekiuka miiko na taratibu za mawasilisho ya kisayansi, ambayo yanawalazimu kufanya ushirikishwaji wa wanasayansi wa nchi husika wanapoandaa na kuchapisha mawasilisho ya kisayansi.

Taarifa sahihi za kitafiti kwa kipindi tajwa kwenye chapisho la Bwana Adaralegde na wenzake ilionyesha kuwa kiwango cha maambukizi ya VVU kilikuwa asilimia 4.9 tu. Aidha, kiwango cha maambukizi kimeshukia zaidi hadi kufikia asilimia 4.4% mwaka 2022 – 2023.

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Sexual Behaviors and HIV Status: A Population-Based Study among Youths and Adults in Tanzania

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Abstract: HIV remains a global epidemic, especially in African countries, despite various interventions. In Tanzania, one of the top ten HIV infected countries in Africa, approximately 80% of its population living with HIV are young adults. The method of HIV transmission in these countries, and efforts to improve responsible sexual intercourse would reduce the spread of the virus.

Method: We used the publicly available Tanzanian Demographic and Health Survey, a population-based cross-sectional household survey, collected between 2016 and 2017. A total of 35,588 youths and adults aged 15 years and above were used for analysis. The outcome measures were the status of HIV status, condom use, and sexual behaviors. Independent variables were gender, education, marital status, income, and ethnicity. Adjusted models were used to determine the association between socio-economic factors and sexual behaviors.

Results: The mean age of the participants was about 30 years and they mostly had secondary level of education. There were gender differences in sexual behaviors, including engaging in oral and vaginal sexual sex. In the demographic adjusted model, compared to those with unknown HIV status, people who used condoms during sexual intercourse were 25% more likely to be known HIV status (OR = 1.36, p < 0.05) and 9 times more likely to be known HIV positive status (OR = 9.0, p < 0.05) than those who do not use

condoms. In addition, individuals in polygamous (OR = 3.31, p < 0.05) or non-married (OR = 2.15, p < 0.05) relationships were 3.3 and 2.15 times more likely to be known HIV negative status than single people. Similarly, being in a polygamous relationship (OR = 0.65) or non-polygamous (OR = 2.00, p < 0.05) increased the likelihood of knowing one's HIV status as positive when compared to those who do not know their HIV status.

Conclusions: Since socio-economic factors played a role in determining how sexual behaviors affected the knowledge of HIV status, we recommend more interventions targeted at the following: Increasing HIV counseling and testing among men, people with low level of education (primarily those with low income), and people not in committed sexual unions. Furthermore, addressing the social determinants of health would help improve sexual behaviors and increase the uptake of HIV testing in this region.

Keywords: Sexual behaviors, HIV, Tanzania, HIV acquisition risks, HIV transmission risks

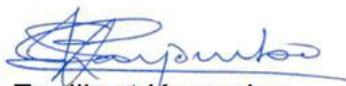
efforts to reduce the spread, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) remains a global epidemic, especially in developing countries. There is still no vaccine or treatment available to fully eradicate HIV. However, healthcare providers and other stakeholders

Wizara imechukua hatua kwa kuwaandikia na kuwataka waandaji wa chapisho hilo kufuta andiko hilo (*article retraction*). Aidha Wizara imewasiliana na Uongozi wa Chuo Kikuu cha Afya Connecticut, Marekani juu ya upotoshaji huu uliofanywa na mwanasayansi ambaye ni mwajiriwa wao.

Tunapenda kuwakumbusha wanasayansi, watafiti pamoja na wadau wa Sekta ya Afya juu ya umuhimu wa kuzingatia miongozo ya maadili ya tafiti (Code of research ethics) pamoja na kuongeza umakini katika uandishi ili kuepusha upotoshaji kama huu unaoweza kuzua tataruki katika jamii. Aidha, Nchi yetu ina Sheria na taratibu zinazo ongoza uchapishaji wa matokeo ya tafiti ambayo ni vema kuzingatiwa. Wanasayansi wanakumbushwa kutumia majarida rasmi ya kitaaluma na kuepuka majarida na wahariri wasio na weledi (Predatory Journals) katika kufanya rejea ya taarifa mbalimbali za kitafiti.

Kupata taarifa sahihi za ushamiri wa VVU nchini, tembelea tovuti ya Mtakwimu Mkuu wa Serikali ambaye ni mtoaji wa taarifa rasmi za nchi kwenye mausala ya takwimu za nchi. Tembelea machapisho yafuatayo kwa taarifa zaidi [https://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/this2016-17/THIS 2016-2017 Final Report.pdf](https://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/this2016-17/THIS%202016-2017%20Final%20Report.pdf) pamoja na [https://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/this2016-17/Tanzania SummarySheet English.pdf](https://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/this2016-17/Tanzania%20SummarySheet%20English.pdf)

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