

A Pilot Study on Entertainment Center-based STD/AIDS Educational Program among Migrant Young Adults in Eastern China

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Background: The STD/AIDS epidemic experienced a wide spread among migrant young adults in Eastern China. We implemented an entertainment center-based STD/AIDS educational program to improve migrant young adults' STD/AIDS related knowledge, attitude and sexual behaviors in Kunshan city.

Method: 724 study participants aged 18-35 were recruited from the largest entertainment center of the city. A baseline survey, educational intervention and 18-month follow-up survey are applied to evaluate the effects of the program by comparing the results of the survey data before and after intervention. Here are the results of the baseline survey conducted in July 2007.

Results: The study participants are from 13 provinces of China and 75.8% of them are not married. They frequently change their workplace. The STD/AIDS knowledge is not well disseminated and many misunderstandings exist among them. They are sexually active with an open value towards premarital sex and multiple sexual partners. About 58% of them have more than 2 sexual partners, but they are relatively conservative towards people with STD/AIDS. Some of them are involved in commercial sex activities and have become a high-risk bridge population transmitting STD/AIDS. The male young adults are more likely to have high-risk sexual behavior than female young adults. Near 20% admitted that they have had sex with casual partners. However, among them, only 35% always use condom during their sexual intercourse.

Conclusions: The baseline survey shows the necessity of conducting a STD/AIDS educational intervention among migrant young adults. The survey also gives us rich information for further educational intervention on STD/AIDS prevention.