



## Does reproductive age group women aware about reproductive tract infection (RTI)? What is their attitude and prevalence on reproductive tract infections? A narrative review

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### Abstract

A estimated 340 million new cases of RTIs, including sexually transmitted infections (STI), emerge each year, with 151 million of them occurring in Asia (world health organization 2001) RTIs often can cause serious long term health consequences such, as pelvic inflammatory diseases, cervical cancer, infertility spontaneous abortion, and ectopic pregnancy.

**Methods:** Pub Med, Medline, EBSCO were searched for research articles in awareness, attitude and prevalence regarding reproductive tract infection among reproductive age group women and found little awareness, attitude and prevalence regarding reproductive infection.

**Results:** Out of 10 articles, 8 research studies supported that awareness, attitude and prevalence regarding reproductive tract infection revealed that variation in the level of awareness, attitude and prevalence.

**Conclusion:** The review concludes that awareness, attitude and prevalence on reproductive tract infection reveals very low level of awareness, attitude and prevalence.

**Keywords:** married adolescents, reproductive tract infections, health behavior, treatment, India

### Introduction

Reproductive tract infection (RTI) aims to promote the health of women of reproductive age group women to evaluate the prevalence, awareness and attitude regarding reproductive tract infections among women in reproductive age group, while preventing - related outcomes such as sexually transmitted diseases, and women's morbidity and mortality.

Reproductive tract infections (RTIs) among women have become a widespread health concern. Inadequate personal hygiene, poor living condition, and lack of accessible medical care facilities in rural villages significantly contribute to the high prevalence of RTIs among rural Indian women. If untreated, RTIs can lead to adverse health outcomes such as infertility, ectopic pregnancy and increased vulnerability to transmission of the human immune deficiency virus.

It is also associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes. Sexually - transmitted diseases (STD) have remained an important global health issue with an estimated one million people acquiring new infections every day making up a total of about 499 million new cases of curable infections each year. The incidence of premarital sex has increased over the years.

A report showed that 83% of school students have already had sex with the first sexual encounter at the mean age of 15 years. The serious long- term complications of sexually transmitted infections (STI) in women and newborns are well - documented. Low STI knowledge has been shown to be associated with unsafe sex.

Most of the students lack awareness of the possible consequences of their actions and the majority of them had

unprotected sex with multiple partners. A series of knowledge, attitudes and practices studies related to STDs has been carried in Malaysia, but the majority of them have focused mainly on HIV/AIDS and school children have been the main target group.

### Materials and Methods

**Search strategy Methods:** An data base search of articles published in various journals from 2007 to 2017 was conducted. Search was restricted only for English language. The data base search done was Pub Med, Ebsco, article containing following search terms were retrieved.

**Type of studies:** Quantitative, cross - sectional descriptive research design, purposive convenient sampling technique

**Type of participants:** Women under reproductive age group.

**Settings:** Rural, institutions, academic, health clinics, urban.

### Result

The systematic search was conducted by framing the terms individually and in combination with all and synonyms, also according to the database. In addition to this, a manual Pub Med search was undertaken using the keywords and search synonyms from already found articles.

An addition of 10articles were found. Initial search retrieved 8699 articles over which 2560 articles were selected manually. Duplicates were removed and reviewed 209 articles for eligibility. 2351 articles were excluded because of duplications in two databases. 189 more studies were excluded due to unavailability of full text. Hence 10 articles were screened which includes qualitative study.

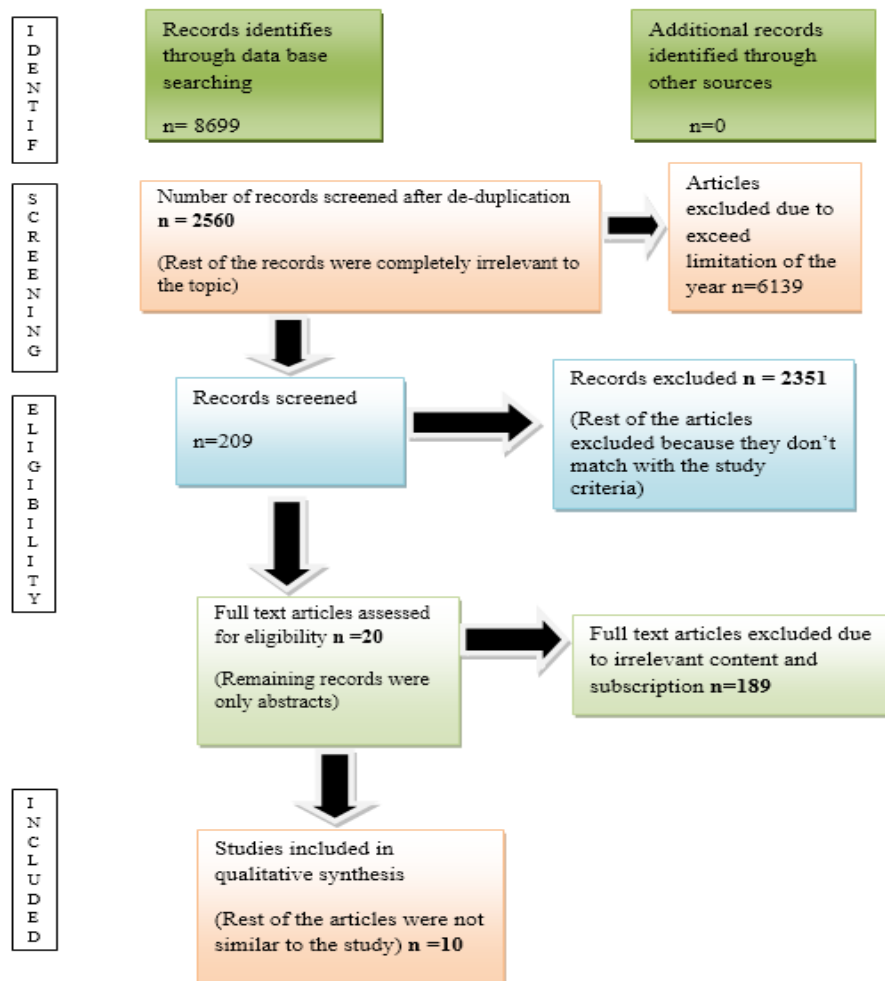


Fig 1: Flowchart showing study selection process

Table 1: Data extraction

Author and year	Research Design	Findings of the study
Mrs. Adigun Temiloluwa Folasayo, <i>et al.</i> (2017)	Cross sectional study	The study reveals based on our findings, there is a critical need to re-evaluate the current sex education program and methods of teaching delivery in all schools and universities, which are mainly based on a recall basis.
Mrs. Faith Nawagi, <i>et al.</i> (2016)	Cross sectional study	The finding reveals most participants did not know about the systemic effect of sexually transmitted infections to their health and did not follow the appropriate behaviour patterns despite being knowledgeable about the various methods of prevention of sexually transmitted infection.
Mr. Ranjan Kumar Prusty, <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Multi stage stratified sampling design	The finding reveals knowledge and treatment seeking behavior is poor among adolescent women in India. There is need for programmatic and policy emphasis on increasing knowledge and awareness through family life education including in education including in educational curriculum at school level.
Koleka Mlisana, <i>et al.</i> (2012)	Prospective observational cohort study	The study reveals laboratory – diagnosed sexually transmitted infection were associated with increased susceptibility to HIV acquisition, while vaginal discharge was not.
Ms. Shubha Dube, (2012)	Comparative study	The finding reveals management profile adopted by the rural girls was restricted to home remedies due to various social taboos associated with reproductive health again subjecting them to undue and unsolicited complications of RTIs.
Ms. Ketkesone Phrasisombath, <i>et al.</i> (2012)	Cross sectional study	The study reveals continuous training for STI services providers focusing on counseling skills and awareness of sexual health care needs for FSWs.
.Chunyu Li, Hae –Ra, <i>et al.</i> (2010)	Cross sectional study	Findings in this study the prevalence of reproductive tract infection among low-income rural Chinese women were extremely high, indicating the urgent need for effective and culturally sensitive health education, particularly targeted to the poor rural population.
Ms. Sri Devi and N. Swarnalatha (2007)	Cross sectional study	This finding reveals study health education regarding the risk factors of unhygienic menstrual practices, no institutional deliveries and illegal abortion must be imparted to the women study area.

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