PH062450: MAJOR HEALTH SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
KEY WORDS: KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE RELATED TO
FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM)
HABIB MOHAMMED: ASSESSMENT ON KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE
AND PRACTICE RELATED TO FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION
(FGM) AND ITS TYPE IN JIJIGA TOWN OF SOMALI REGIONAL
STATE OF ETHIOPIA. THESIS ADVISOR: PRO. SURASAK
TANEENPANICHSAKUL, M.D., 60 pp.

Objectives: is to assess knowledge, attitude and practice, towards FGM, and its type
among women in a reproductive age group.

Method: Community based cross sectional study on knowledge, attitude and practice of
women on FGM and its types was conducted in Jijiga town, Somali region, Eastern
Ethiopia from February 10 - March 20/2007. Systematic sampling methods was used to
identify the study subjects and data was collected using pre-tested structured
questionnaire on various aspects of FGM and data was organized in percentage and
presented in table.

Result: The prevalence of FGM among women aged 15-49 years age in the study area
was found to be 94.5%, where infibulations (pharonic) is the commonest type of FGM
practiced (83.4%), while Sunni and clitoridectomy were reported by small proportion of
study subject (13.6%) and (3.0%) respectively.

the majority of study subjects have "Good knowledge" about FGM and as to the attitude
of the women toward the FGM the study revealed that 56.7% of the respondents had
responded in suitable manner toward FGM (i.e shows - negative attitude toward the FGM
practice). 53-55.1% of women were rejecting the maintenance of the practice and 43.9%
want to maintain the practice in less severe or severe form.

Conclusion: Female genital mutilation is practiced by the majority of women interviewed
in the study area with different form. The study indicated that study subjects hope to
decrease high risk of developing complications merely by changing to mildest form of
FGM (sunni). There is obvious gap between knowledge of negative effects of the practice
and positive attitude towards the practice to continue. Hence, wide information, education
and communication is recommended.

Field of Study: Health System Development
Academic year: 2006

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