

Knowledge and Attitudes towards Thalassemia among Public University Students in Bangladesh



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Supplementary Information

S. Table 1| Knowledge score difference by sex and marital status

Variables	Knowledge Score (Mean ± SD)	<i>p</i> -value
Gender		
Male	5.69 ±2.14	0.11
Female	5.95±1.85	
Marital Status		
Married	6.17±2.00	0.2
Unmarried	5.77±2.02	

**p*-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant

S. Table 2| Knowledge score difference among students from different fields of study and the year of study

Variables	Knowledge Score (Mean ± SD)	<i>p</i> -Value
Field of Study		
Arts and Humanities	5.28 ±2.15	<0.001
Business	5.01±2.01	
Science	6.08 ±1.94	
Social science	5.40±2.01	
Year of Study		
1 st year	5.85±1.99	0.089
2 nd year	5.54 ±1.93	
3 rd year	5.51 ±2.00	
4 th year	6.12 ±2.11	
Masters	6.13 ±2.09	

**p*-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant

Questionnaire

Declaration

This survey focuses on the knowledge, attitude, and awareness of students from different public universities in Bangladesh towards Thalassemia. Your kind participation in this survey will help our research.

This survey is expected to be spontaneous. You are requested to fill in the given questions based on your knowledge. All the information collected for this survey is highly confidential and will be used for research purposes only.

Purpose

Thalassemia is a potentially life-threatening and yet preventable inherited blood disorder. Understanding the local socio-cultural context and level of public awareness about thalassemia is pivotal for selecting effective prevention strategies. This study will attempt to assess knowledge and attitudinal perceptions about thalassemia among public university students in Bangladesh.

Part I: Demographic Information

Questions	Responses
1. Are you willing to participate in the survey?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
2. Age of Participant	
3. Gender	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female
4. Marital Status	<input type="radio"/> Married <input type="radio"/> Unmarried
5. Field of Study	<input type="radio"/> Science <input type="radio"/> Business <input type="radio"/> Arts and Humanities
6. Year of Study	<input type="radio"/> 1 st year <input type="radio"/> 2 nd year <input type="radio"/> 3 rd year <input type="radio"/> 4 th year <input type="radio"/> Masters
7. Do you know about thalassemia?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No (If no, please select 'None' for the source of information)
8. Sources of Information about Thalassemia? (Select all that apply)	<input type="radio"/> Electronic media <input type="radio"/> Print media <input type="radio"/> Friends and family <input type="radio"/> Seminar and Lectures <input type="radio"/> Health Care Professionals <input type="radio"/> None

Part II: Level of Knowledge towards Thalassemia of Students

Questions	Responses		
9. Thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder.	Yes	No	Don't know
10. Thalassemia is a major contagious disease.			
11. Marriage between a healthy individual and a carrier results in the birth of a severely thalassemic child.			
12. Marriage between two carriers results in the birth of a severely thalassemic child.			
13. Thalassemia can pass onto your child through a gene.			
14. Pregnancy should be terminated during thalassemia.			
15. Inter-marriage is a significant risk factor for thalassemia.			
16. Blood transfusion is a treatment for major thalassemia patients.			
17. Thalassemia is a preventable disease.			
18. Thalassemia is a curable disease.			

Part II: Attitude of Students towards Thalassemia

Questions	Responses		
19. I would happily accept a relationship with a thalassemic person	Agree	Disagree	Neutral
20. I would like to consult with a consultant before getting married.			
21. I would undergo necessary blood tests before marriage to avoid the birth of a thalassemic child.			
22. I should accept the probability of a child just because of a family marriage.			
23. I would like to inform others about the dangers of thalassemia.			
24. I would like to consider the importance of public education regarding thalassemia.			
25. If my family has a major thalassemia patient and I am the only candidate for bone marrow transplantation, I would consider it.			
26. I would like to participate in the "Thalassemia Prevention Program" if someone introduces			
27. I would like to tell friends about Thalassemia after completing This survey			
28. Thalassemia is a curable disease			