KNOWLEDGE AND PERCEPTIONS RELATED TO HIV/AIDS, ONE RESEARCH WITH ADOLESCENTES IN VESPASIANO CITY, BRASIL.

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OBJECTIVE

The objective of this study was to assess the KNOWLEDGE and PERCEPTIONS related to HIV/AIDS among adolescentes in the city of Vespasiano/BRASIL.
METHODS

SAMPLE: The sample used in the study consisted of 1.158 adolescents.

AGE: Varied from 14 to 19 years old.
• The adolescents answered validated questionnaires...

• ...and were, at the time of the research, enrolled in nine public secondary schools.
RESULTS

The average score on the knowledge on HIV/AIDS on a scale of nine questions was 5.1.

The highest rates of knowledge were related to HIV transmission and condom use.
• 61% of the adolescents were misinformed about the risk contamination between heterosexual couples.

• 59.9% were misinformed about coitus interruptus.
THE GIRLS were better informed about issues related to HIV/AIDS (58.7%).
• The SCHOOL GRADE showed direct relationship with the level of knowledge!

FRIENDS AND PARENTS were the mains sources of information for issues involving sexuality!
CONCLUSION

There are gaps in relation to adolescent's knowledge on:

WAYS that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted especially for the RISK SITUATIONS.
...The **GROUP APPROACH** methods is fundamental!

...Furthermore it is essential to consider the uniqueness of each adolescent and gender specifications.
Including FAMILY AND FRIENDS improving the participation of TEACHERS, SCHOOL AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS are the most advisable paths!
THANK YOU!
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