

Relationship of environmental tobacco smoke exposure with health beliefs and social pressure in adolescents of Yazd

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*Abstract

The aim of this study was to determine the environmental tobacco smoke exposure status in adolescents of the city of Yazd (Iran) and its associations with health beliefs and social pressure. A total of 281 subjects entered the present cross-sectional study using a clustered sampling. Data were collected through completion of a questionnaire for each subject and further analyzed using spearman correlation coefficient, Mann-Whitney test and Kruskal-Wallis test. Of total study population, 42.7 % reported of at least one exposure within the last seven days to cigarette smoke while staying with a smoker in a room. Similarly, 53.3% mentioned of at least one exposure to smoke while in a taxi within the last 7 days and finally 52.7% stated of at least one exposure to smoke within the previous 7 days while in open space. Perceived social pressure was found to be significantly associated with the environmental tobacco smoke exposure. A high percentage of Iranian youths are being exposed to environmental tobacco smoke and perceived social pressure is considered as an important related factor. Regarding the extent of health problems associated with passive smoking, interventional education programs are necessary.

Keywords: Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure, Social Pressure, Health Beliefs

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