

FACTORS AFFECTING HIV INFECTION AMONG INJECTING DRUG
USERS (IDUS) IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE, VIETNAM 2008

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ABSTRACT

This study determines factors affecting HIV infection among IDUs in Khanhhoa province, Vietnam. Secondary data from a cross-sectional survey on knowledge, attitude, and behavior regarding HIV/AIDS among IDUs, which was conducted by Khanhhoa Department of Health from July to December 2008, was used for analysis. Simple random sampling design was used to select a total of 350 IDUs living in 7 districts in Khanhhoa province. IDUs were contacted directly in order to answer a questionnaire and have a blood test by “peers” (other IDUs who were collaborators of the program) and health officers.

The results of binary logistic regression reveal that injecting duration, rehabilitation, alcohol use, and having a tattoo affect HIV infection. Injecting duration was positively associated with HIV infection and IDUs who had ever been in a rehabilitation center were more likely to be infected with HIV than those who had never been in a rehabilitation center. Having a tattoo increased one’s risk of HIV infection. Surprisingly, alcohol use was negatively associated with HIV infection.

KEY WORDS: HIV infection/ IDUs/ Risk factors/ Khanhhoa/ Vietnam

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