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TITH KHIMUY : DETERMINANTS RELATED TO THE UTILIZATION OF
HIV COUNSELLING CENTER AT WORLD VISION COUNSELLING CENTER,
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A cross sectional study was conducted on determinants related to the utilization of World Vision Counselling Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, with the aim to describe the socio-demographic factors, knowledge on HIV/AIDS, perception towards health status, risk behaviour, and perception towards counselling center/ counsellor/ counselling procedures which influence the utilization of the HIV counseling center. 170 clients who had completed pre and posttests were recruited and interviewed from March 15 to April 12, 2000.

This study revealed that the majority of respondents utilized up to 2 visits (88.8 percent). The main reason of visit was suspicion of getting HIV and to do blood test (94.7 percent). It was also found that about 26 percent were positive. The results indicated that the age group of 25-34 years was the largest at 40.0 percent. Seven out of ten respondents (68.2 percent) were males. Almost half of the respondents were single. The majority of respondents (38.2 percent) who came to the center had a secondary school education. Most of the respondents were farmers/ labourers/ drivers followed by students/government staff/vendors at 34.7 percent and 32.4percent respectively. Regarding monthly income, more than half of the respondents (52.4 percent) had 68,000 Riel or less. More than half (55.3 percent) of the respondents had low level of knowledge about HIV/AIDS. Regarding perception towards counselling center/ counsellor/ counselling, 68.2 percent of the respondents had a high perception.

There was a significant relationship between blood test result and utilization of HIV counselling center. After controlling blood test result, there was no relationship between socio-demographic factors such as age group, sex, marital status, educational status, income and utilization of HIV counselling center. In addition, no significant relationships were found for level of knowledge on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, perception towards counselling center/ counsellor/ counselling and utilization of HIV counselling center.

The counsellor should encourage for more follow-up visits even of the respondents who had HIV negative blood result.