

Prevalence and Correlates of Tobacco Use Among 10-12 Year Old School Students in Patna District, Bihar, India

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In order to assess the prevalence and correlates of tobacco use among school students (10-12 years), information on tobacco use and socio-demographic variables was collected from 1626 students (male 1027) using a questionnaire. Bivariate and multiple regression analysis were done. Ever users in the sample were 16.6PERCENT (95PERCENT CI 14.8, 18.4) and current users were 5.1PERCENT (95PERCENT CI 4.1, 6.1). Current use was significantly associated with male sex (OR 2.3, CI 1.09 5.14), students not participating in sports (OR 2, CI 1.04 4.04), tobacco use among friends (OR 4, CI 2.02 8.25), unaware of harmful effects of tobacco (OR 2.6, CI 1.1 6.14) and students who were used by parents and teachers to buy tobacco for them (OR 2.1, CI 1.4 4.19). Tobacco control programs focusing on male students, those who do not participate in sports, those whose friends use tobacco and those who are used by parents and teachers to buy tobacco are warranted