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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Knowledge, perceptions, and practices of blood donation among undergraduate students at Gulf Medical University, United Arab Emirates: a cross-sectional study

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Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristic.

Variable (n=301)		Frequency	Percent
Age	17-24 years	286	95.0
	25-30 years	6	2.0
	>30 years	9	3.0
Gender	Male	52	17.3
	Female	249	82.7
Marital status	Single	287	95.3
	Married	14	4.7
Residence	Abu Dhabi	14	4.7
	Dubai	70	23.3
	Sharjah	85	28.2
	Ajman	117	38.9
	Ras Al Khaimah	6	2.0
	Umm Al-Quwain	9	3.0
College of studying	Medicine	55	18.3
	Dentistry	8	2.7
	Pharmacy	8	2.7
	Health Sciences	199	66.1
	Nursing	20	6.6
	Healthcare Management	11	3.7
Academic Year	1 st Year	99	32.9
	2 nd Year	85	28.2
	3 rd Year	49	16.3
	4 th Year	61	20.3
	5 th Year	7	2.3

Table 2. Health status of study participants.

Variable (n=301)	No, n (%)	Yes, n (%)
Are you a smoker?	269 (89.4)	32 (10.6)
Do you have any hematological (blood related) disease?	285 (94.7)	16 (5.3)
Do have any immune diseases?	296 (98.3)	5 (1.7)
Do you have any metabolic syndrome?	297 (98.7)	4 (1.3)
Do you have any infectious diseases?	297 (98.7)	4 (1.3)
Did you donate blood anytime?	261 (86.7)	40 (13.3)

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Table 3. Knowledge.

Knowledge (n=301)		Frequency	Percent
Are you aware about, where can the blood be donated?	Blood bank	190	63.1
	Health facility	49	16.3
	Campaign	33	11.0
	Don't know	29	9.6
How often an individual can donate blood?	Weekly	6	2.0
	Monthly	31	10.3
	Every 3 to 6 Months	183	60.8
	Yearly	21	7.0
	Don't know	60	19.9
Who can donate blood?	Any healthy adult	296	98.3
	Men	2	0.7
	Women	2	0.7
	Old males and females	1	0.3
Is there is any age limitation for blood donation?	No	54	17.9
	Yes	247	82.1
Can people with any blood group donate blood?	No	40	13.3
	Yes	261	86.7
Are you aware of the common blood group types?	No	16	5.3
	Yes	285	94.7
Can blood be stored in the blood bank?	No	11	3.7
	Yes	290	96.3
Does blood donation have any beneficial effects to the donor?	Disagree	59	19.6
	Agree	242	80.4
Number of persons benefited from a unit of blood donated	One	52	17.3
	Two	21	7.0
	Three	38	12.6
	Four and above	40	13.3
	Don't Know	150	49.8
If there is a announcement for rare blood Group and you possess it, will you donate the blood if you receive notification of need for blood?	No	17	5.6
	Probably	95	31.6
	Yes	189	62.8
Are you aware of the location of blood bank in your current or previous residing place?	No	192	63.8
	Yes	109	36.2
Have you undergone blood transfusion before you donate blood?	No	265	88.0
	Yes	36	12.0
Are you aware about the blood transfusion transmitted infections?	No	62	20.6
	Yes	239	79.4

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Table 4. The benefits of blood transfusion.

The benefits of blood transfusion (n=301)	No, n (%)	Yes, n (%)
Activate blood circulation and blood renewal	67 (22.3)	234 (77.7)
Decreases heart and arterial diseases	168 (55.8)	133 (44.2)
Detect hidden diseases	162 (53.8)	139 (46.2)
Able to Keep Your Iron Levels in Check	159 (52.8)	142 (47.2)
You'll Get a Mini Check-Up	170 (56.5)	131 (43.5)
Improve your emotional well-being	188 (62.5)	113 (37.5)
Provide a sense of belonging and reduce isolation	193 (64.1)	108 (35.9)

Table 5. Perceptions.

Perceptions (n=301)		Frequency	Percent
Would you participate in blood donation campaign in future?	No	20	6.6
	Probably	105	34.9
	Yes	176	58.5
Would you tell other people about your donation experience?	No	39	13.0
	Yes	262	87.0
For whom would you prefer to donate blood?	Any one	241	80.1
	One of my family	32	10.6
	Relative	12	4.0
	Others	16	5.3
Would you donate blood again	No	18	6.0
	Probably	128	42.5
	Yes	155	51.5

Table 6. Practices.

How many times did you donate blood (the frequency of blood donation)	Frequency	Percent
No rarely donate	254	84.4
Yes, once a year	19	6.3
Yes, every 3 months	13	4.3
Yes, every 6 months	15	5.0
Total	301	100.0

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Table 7. Practices.

(n=47)		Frequency	Percent
Place where you recently donated the blood?	Blood Bank	25	53.2
	In health institution	15	31.9
	Event organized in the campus	7	14.9
	Total	47	100.0
Your last experience motivates you to donate again	No	10	21.3
	Yes	37	78.7
	Total	47	100.0
Did you feel any complications after donating blood?	No	38	80.9
	Yes	9	19.1
	Total	47	100.0

Table 8. Barriers to blood donation.

Barrier about blood donation (n=301)	No, n (%)	Yes, n (%)
Failing to meet the donation criteria requirements	151 (50.2)	150 (49.8)
Fear of catching diseases	225 (74.8)	76 (25.2)
Fear of needle pain	201 (66.8)	100 (33.2)
Feeling dizzy	201 (66.8)	100 (33.2)
Desire to donate in the future to my relatives	250 (83.1)	51 (16.9)
Lack of special reward	273 (90.7)	28 (9.3)
I do not have time to donate blood	243 (80.7)	58 (19.3)
I do not think there is a need to donate blood	265 (88.0)	36 (12.0)

Table 9. Source of information about blood donation.

Source of information about blood donation (n=301)	No, n (%)	Yes, n (%)
Doctor	90 (29.9)	211 (70.1)
Awareness campaigns	136 (45.2)	165 (54.8)
Newspaper and magazine	227 (75.4)	74 (24.6)
Family	187 (62.1)	114 (37.9)
Friends	182 (60.5)	119 (39.5)
Social media	120 (39.9)	181 (60.1)
Radio program	273 (90.7)	28 (9.3)
TV program	238 (79.1)	63 (20.9)

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Table 10. Association of knowledge with gender, marital status, and residence.

		Knowledge						p
		Poor		Average		Good		
		n	%	n	%	n	%	
Gender	Male	2	11.1	36	17.6	14	17.7	0.775
	Female	16	88.9	168	82.4	65	82.3	
Marital status	Single	17	94.4	197	96.6	73	92.4	0.323
	Married	1	5.6	7	3.4	6	7.6	
Residence	Abu Dhabi	2	11.1	8	3.9	4	5.1	0.885
	Dubai	3	16.7	49	24.1	18	22.8	
	Sharjah	5	27.8	57	28.1	22	27.8	
	Ajman	7	38.9	81	39.9	29	36.7	
	Ras Al Khaimah	0	0.0	3	1.5	3	3.8	
	Umm Al-Quwain	1	5.6	5	2.5	3	3.8	

Table 11. Association of knowledge with college and academic year.

		Knowledge						p
		Poor		Average		Good		
		n	%	n	%	n	%	
Which college are you studying	College of Medicine	3	16.7	38	18.7	14	17.9	0.782
	College of Dentistry	1	5.6	6	3.0	1	1.3	
	College of Pharmacy	0	0.0	4	2.0	4	5.1	
	College of Health Sciences	12	66.7	134	66.0	51	65.4	
	College of Nursing	1	5.6	12	5.9	7	9.0	
	Healthcare Management	1	5.6	9	4.4	1	1.3	
Academic Year	1 st Year	10	55.6	69	33.8	19	24.7	0.192
	2 nd Year	4	22.2	60	29.4	20	26.0	
	3 rd Year	1	5.6	33	16.2	15	19.5	
	4 th Year	3	16.7	36	17.6	22	28.6	
	5 th Year	0	0.0	6	2.9	1	1.3	

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