

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The hazards of diphtheria on human beings and their treatment

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project was awareness about diphtheria and their harmful impacts on the human beings. The many students took part in this project which showed that diphtheria is not a fungal disease and transferred from one person to another.

Keywords: Complication of diphtheria, Cure, Fungal

INTRODUCTION

Diphtheria is caused by *Corynebacterium*. It causes breathing difficulty and heart failure. The treatment of diphtheria in children, infants, and adults occurs by vaccine. Diphtheria causes an infection in mucous membrane of throat and nose.^[1-3] The sore throat and fever are symptoms at early stage, but the gray or white patch is produced in severe cases. Sometimes, barking cough occurs due to diphtheria. Diphtheria can be cured with antibiotic erythromycin or benzylpenicillin. It mostly occurs in Indonesia and India.^[4-6]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this project, 78 students of Bahauddin Zakariya University participated.

Statistical analysis

The quantitative analysis of this activity was done using MS Excel.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This shows that it is bacterial disease and can be transferred through air from one person to another. Yoon *et al.* studied this disease before [Table 1-5].

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Table 1: Questionnaire to evaluate awareness about etiology of diphtheria^[7]

Diphtheria is a	Yes (%)	No (%)
Viral disease	1.28	98.7
Bacterial disease	98.7	1.28
Fungal disease	3.84	96.15
Genetic disease	12.82	87.17
Metabolic disease	52.5	47.43

Table 2: Questionnaire to evaluate views about prevalence of diphtheria^[8]

Ever suffered from diphtheria	Yes (%)	No (%)
You	11.53	88.46
Your family member	28.2	71.79
Your relative	16.6	83.3
Your neighbor	28.2	71.7
Your friend	26.92	73.7

Table 3: Questionnaire to evaluate views about transmission of diphtheria^[9]

Diphtheria is transmitted by	Yes (%)	No (%)
Contacts or blood transfusion	44.8	55.12
From parents to offspring	38.46	61.5

Table 4: Questionnaire to evaluate views about hope^[10]

Diphtheria may be treated by	Yes (%)	No (%)
Medicines	84.6	15.38
Surgery	7.69	92.3
No need of treatment	15.3	84.61

CONCLUSION

This shows that diphtheria is not fungal disease and can be transferred from one person to another.

Table 5: Awareness about etiology of diphtheria: Views of postgraduate biology students^[11]

Questions	Male (%)		Female (%)		Total (%)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Viral disease	6.66	93.3	0	100	1.28	98.7
Bacterial disease	93.3	6.66	100	0	98.7	1.28
Fungal disease	6.66	93.3	3.17	96.8	3.84	96.15
Genetic disease	6.66	93.3	15.8	84.12	12.82	87.1
Metabolic disease	66.6	33.3	50.7	49.2	52.5	47.4

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