Abstract: Influenza is an important disease because of its rapid epidemic diffusion, high morbidity rate and complications. Also its prevention and control is difficult because of its short incubation period. Influenza virus is one of three viruses which could causes epidemics. H1N1 is a very important communicable disease which its pandemic was occurred in 2009. This study was carried out with the aim of determining the related factors of preventive behaviors of H1N1 based on PMT.

Materials and Methods: It was a cross-sectional study in which a cluster sampling was employed to recruit 200 guidance school students. The data were collected by interview, using a questionnaire which was developed by the researchers. Validity and reliability of the scales were examined and approved. SPSS software was used for the purpose of data analysis. Data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Results: The respondents acquired 84.73% of total protection motivation score and 76.16% of preventive behaviors of H1N1. There was a significant correlation between the PMT constructs and expect perceived severity and perceived costs with preventive behaviors. Components of PMT accounted for 49.6 of the variation in protection motivation. Protection motivation accounted for 11.3% of the variation in behaviors. Other constructs of PMT accounted for 12.1% of the variation of behavior.

Conclusion: Regarding the significant correlation between the most of the PMT constructs and preventive behaviors of H1N1 and potential of PMT in predicting the behavior, Designing educational program based on PMT for preventing H1N1 spread in possible future pandemics is recommended.

(Preventive Behaviors, H1N1, Students, Protection Motivation Theory (PMT)
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