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**Title:** The prevalence of high risk behaviors and its relation with social background among 14-18 years old adolescents in the city of FooladShahr

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**Abstract:** Introduction: Infections caused by HIV are recognized as one of the major causes of infectious disease which ends in death worldwide. Global statistics show that 85% of cases are in the 15-49 age groups. In most cases the transmission paths are related to human behaviors which are changed often with appropriate training and consultation. So, the aim of this study was to measure the prevalence of high risk behaviors among adolescents and their relationship with some social background.

**METHODS:** A cross sectional study among 669 adolescents (327) boys and (342) girls residing in FooladShahr was carried out in academic year 1387-1388 using anonymous questionnaires. Data were described using descriptive statistics including mean and proportion. Fisher’s Exact test was applied to compare the proportions between different genders and other groups. All analyses were performed using SPSS18.

**Results:** Among 669 studied individuals, the average age was 16.7 (SD=1.3) and 16 (SD=1.3) for female and male group respectively. The proportion of misunderstanding on how to prevent HIV contamination was 18% and 7% for female and male adolescents respectively. Overall, Radio and Television had 39% contribution to transfer AIDS-HIV knowledge and school education program had little contribution (3%). Smoking prevalence were about double in boys by 39 versus 21% for girls; the second highest risky behavior was drinking alcohol 38 versus 9%; sexual contact with the opposite sex by 30 against 6%; sexual contact with the same sex by 20 versus 6%; and taking the exhilarating tablets with 14 against 4% for boys and girls respectively. Our findings indicated that the prevalence of high risk behavior were associated with parents education level, and family income. The trend of high risk behavior increased by increasing level of education for boys and decreased for girls.

**Conclusion:** The high prevalence of risky sexual behaviors confirming and alarming the third wave of HIV transmission. Therefore, to transfer the correct knowledge and remove misunderstanding of HIV contamination, explicit interventional training program should urgently be considered by all educational organizations, particularly, Radio and Television and High School Education System.

AIDS, HIV, knowledge, high risk behaviors, adolescents, FooladShahr

**Presentation:** Poster