Title: Using Community based Participatory Research to reduce risk factor and promoting protective factor of drug abuse

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Abstract: Introduction:
Drug abuse has serious consequences in families, schools, and communities. The goal of Drug Abuse prevention is to help the public understand the causes of drug abuse and to prevent its onset. This article describes how components of Community based Participatory Research methodology were used to develop Drug Resistance Strategies and implement the participatory program to reduce drug abuse risk factors and increase protective factors. Priorities from community on the zone 17 of Tehran helped to shape the data collection and developing participatory interventions and implementations.

Methods:
Community participants were involved in multiple stages of creation and implementation. The research team developed a systematic review of literatures on programs for creating strong theoretical foundations. This article describes how CBPR methodology ensured that researchers collaborated with community members, trustees, local community based Organizations and schools develop this promising drug prevention program. The first step started with developing the best practice list, and then it marketed through personal meetings with project stakeholders. In-depth interviews were conducted with different subgroups of stakeholders to identify what milestone were more meaningful, how could be implemented. Best practices based on literature review and themes were extracted from interviews used for designing effective interventions. Once the program developed, a pilot study was implemented on secondary schools in two control and case group by using a standard questionnaire on risk and protective factors of drug abuse. Data were analyzed through pair t test and one way ANOVAs.

Results:
The findings indicated that the list of “best practice” which was produced from evidence-based practice in drug prevention field has been emerged. Data gathered through interviews showed school based joint program with parents can provide better protection against drug abuse and should be started in earlier ages. The school based interventions had significant impact on reducing risk factors in short term.

Conclusions:
These results, based on CBPR methodology support the conclusion that participatory prevention program can be effective on drug use prevention if the cultural differences and sense of ownership reinforces.

Community Based participatory research, Drug abuse, Prevention

Presentation: Poster