

Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of COTPA Regulations among Policemen in North India: A Cross Sectional Study

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Abstract—Tobacco kills around one billion people in the 21st century. On an average one person dies every six seconds due to tobacco usage, accounting for one in 10 adult deaths. The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, or COTPA is an Act of Parliament of India enacted in 2003. The assessment of knowledge, attitude and practice of law enforcers in relation to COTPA is an important part of a comprehensive national tobacco control effort.

Aims and objectives: To assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of COTPA among policemen in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh.

Materials and Method: A cross sectional study was conducted among 259 policemen at Moradabad police training academy, UP. A pre formed pre-tested questionnaire was used. Data were analyzed statistically by using SPSS.

Result: A total of 259 men were enrolled in this study. The mean age of the respondents was 46.67 years with the lowest being 35 years and highest being 60 years. The average knowledge, attitude and knowledge component were 80.5%, 64.9% and 89.4 respectively.

Conclusion: This shows that although the knowledge component is fairly high at 80.5% but practice component is almost touching 90% stating the fact that policemen themselves follow COTPA highlighting the fact they would be good law enforcers for the general population.