

Level of Awareness on HIV/AIDS among Residents of Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City

Gina M. Zamora, Msmt

Cagayan State University, Tuguegarao, Cagayan, Philippines

***Corresponding Author:**

Gina M. Zamora, Msmt

Email: gmz0530@yahoo.com.ph

Abstract: This study aimed to investigate the level of awareness on HIV/AIDS among residents of Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City. Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions: 1. what is the socio-economic background of the respondents according to: a. Age, b. Sex, c. Level of educational attainment, d. Civil status, e. Occupation, f. Religious Affiliation, g. Ethnicity, h. No. of Family Members, i. Annual Gross Income. 2 What is the level of awareness of these respondents to HIV/AIDS? Ten residents from each of the seven Zones in Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City totalling to seventy were randomly selected to be the respondents in this study. The questionnaire was used as primary instrument in gathering the pertinent data for the study. Result of the study showed that not all transmission, prevention and causes of HIV/AIDS are known by the respondents from Ugac Sur. Furthermore, there is no significant difference among the profile of the respondents and the level of awareness on HIV/AIDS. Based on the survey, the respondents despite their demographic profiles shared equal knowledge on HIV/AIDS.

Keywords: HIV AIDS, Prevalence Rate, awareness, HIV antibody test, HIV positive.

INTRODUCTION

HIV is a leading cause of death worldwide and the number one cause of death in Africa. New HIV infections overall have declined by more than 20% since 2001 and, in 25 low- and middle-income countries, new infections have declined by more than 50%. Still, there were about 2.5 million new infections in 2011 or more than 7,000 new HIV infections per day. Most new infections are transmitted heterosexually, although risk factors vary [1]. In some countries, men who have sex with men, drug users, and sex workers are at significant risk. Although HIV testing capacity has increased over time, enabling more people to know their HIV status, the majority of people with HIV are still unaware they are infected.

In this connection, Philippine AIDS Prevention and Control Act of 1998 have been implemented. This act states that, "The State shall promote public awareness about the causes, modes of transmission, consequences, and means of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS through a comprehensive nationwide educational and information campaign organized and conducted by the State. Such campaigns shall promote value formation and employ scientifically proven approaches, focus on the family as a basic social unit, and be carried out in all schools and training centers, workplaces, and communities. This program shall

involve affected individuals and groups, including people living with HIV/AIDS [2].

Reproductive Health Bill (RH bill), has been also implemented as another law to prevent the spread and development of HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD). Proponents emphasized that RH Bill will help in stemming the AIDS epidemic that is worsening in the Philippines. They state that RH Bill will mean: (1) Information and access to natural and modern family planning (2) Maternal, infant and child health and nutrition (3) Promotion of breast feeding (4) Prevention of abortion and management of post-abortion complications (5) Adolescent and youth health (6) Prevention and management of reproductive tract infections, HIV/AIDS and STDs (7) Elimination of violence against women (8) Counseling on sexuality and sexual and reproductive health (9) Treatment of breast and reproductive tract cancers (10) Male involvement and participation in RH; (11) Prevention and treatment of infertility and (12) RH education for the youth [3].

The two laws about HIV both aim to prevent, to diminish and to promote public awareness about the HIV/AIDS through a comprehensive nationwide educational and information campaign organized and conducted by the State.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research Design

This study made use of purposive design. In this study the socio-economic background of the respondents and educational attainment were described. Likewise, their level of awareness on HIV/AIDS was described. On the other hand, the researcher aimed to determine if there is a significant difference between the socio-economic background of the respondents and their level of awareness on HIV/AIDS.

Respondents and Sampling Procedures

Ten residents from each of the seven Zones in Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City totalling to seventy were randomly selected to be the respondents in this study.

Research Instrument

The questionnaire was used as primary instrument in gathering the pertinent data for the study.

In formulating the items which was included in the questionnaire, the researcher reviewed pertinent literature and studies related to HIV. Books, journals as well as unpublished materials were used as guidelines in framing the items for the questionnaire. Professionals who were knowledgeable in the preparation were likewise consulted.

Collection of Data

The researcher sought permission from the Barangay Captain of Ugac Sur Tuguegarao City to float the questioner to the respondents. Informal interviews were also conducted to obtain more reliable information. The questionnaire was personally retrieved after each interview.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 presents the distribution of respondents according to age.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents according to Age

AGE	ZONE 1		ZONE 2		ZONE 3		ZONE 4		ZONE 5		ZONE 6		ZONE 7		TOTAL FREQUENCY	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
13-18			1	10	1	10	6	60	1	10	2	20	2	10	13	18.57
19-24	2	20	3	30	2	20	1	10	3	30	4	40	1	10	16	22.86
25-30	2	20	1	10	3	30			1	10	1	10	1	10	9	12.86
31-36	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10			1	10	1	10	6	8.57
37-42	1	10			2	20	1	10	3	30	1	10	1	10	9	12.86
43-48	1	10	2	20			1	10	2	20					6	8.57
49-54	1	10	1	10	1	10					1	10	4	40	8	11.42
55-60	2	20													2	2.86
61-65			1	10											1	1.43
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be gleaned from table 1 that most or 16 respondents belong to the age bracket 19-24, one respondent belong to the age bracket 61-65. On the average, the youngest of the respondents belong to the age bracket 13-18 while the oldest come from the age

bracket 61-65.

Table 2 presents the distribution of the respondents according to sex.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents according to Sex

Sex	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Female	5	50	4	40	6	60	5	50	6	60	6	60	8	80	40	57.14
Male	5	50	6	60	4	40	5	50	4	40	4	40	2	20	30	42.86
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be shown that most or 40 respondents are female; while the least or 30 respondents are male. In other words most of the data gathered came from female respondents of Ugac Sur.

Table 3 shows the distribution of respondents according to their civil status.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents according to Civil Status

Civil Status	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Single	5	50	5	50	5	50	8	80	4	40	3	30	3	30	33	47.14
Married	5	50	5	50	5	50	2	20	6	60	7	70	7	70	37	52.86
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be inferred that most or 37 respondents are married; while the least or 33 respondents are single. It can be deduced that there are more married respondents than the single ones.

Table 4 shows the distribution of respondents according to their educational attainment.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents according to Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Never Attended School															4	5.71
Elementary Undergrad	2	20	1	10					1	10						
Elementary Graduate	1	10	1	10	2	20	1	10	1	10	4	40	2	20	12	17.14
High School Undergrad	2	20	3	30			2	20	2	20			2	20	11	15.71
High School Graduate	1	10			5	50			1	10	1	10	2	20	10	14.29
Vocational Undergrad	1	10			1	10	2	20					1	10	5	7.14
Vocational Graduate			1	10			1	10							2	2.86
College Undergrad					1	10	3	30	2	20	3	30	3	30	12	17.14
College Graduate	3	30	4	40	1	10			3	30	2	20			13	18.57
With Masteral Units							1	10							1	1.43
Masteral Graduate															0	0
With Doctoral Units															0	0
Doctoral Graduate															0	0
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be deduced that most or 13 respondents are college graduate; while at least or one respondent had Masteral Units.

Table 5 shows the distribution of respondents according to annual gross income.

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents according to Annual Gross Income

Annual Gross Income	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Below 50 000	8	80	5	50	9	90	10	100	9	90	9	90	10	100	60	85.71
50 000-99 999	1	10	5	50	1	10									7	10
100 000-199 999	1	10							1	10					2	2.86
200 000-299 999																
300 000 and above											1	10			1	1.42
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be gleaned that most or 60 respondents has an annual gross income of less than P50, 000 and the least or one has an annual gross income of greater than P300, 000. It can be deduced that many of the

respondents have an annual gross income of less than P50, 000.

Table 6 presents the distribution of respondents according to occupation.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents according to Occupation

Occupation	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Unemployed	2	20	3	30	1	10	8	80	5	50	5	50	6	60	30	42.9
Employed:																
Scavenger																
Vendor	1	10									1	10	1	10	3	4.29
Tricycle Driver							1	10							1	1.43
Jeep Driver																
Maid					2	20									2	2.86
Farmer	4	40	2	20	4	40	1	10	3	30	1	10	2	20	17	15.71
Street Aide																
Tailor																
Barber																
Teacher	2	20	1	10											3	4.29
Beautician											1	10			1	1.43
Carpenter																
Housewife																
Principal																
Nurse			1	10	1	10									2	2.86
Doctor																
Med. Tech.																
Gov't Employee	1	10	3	30					1	10	1	10			6	8.6
Healthcare Worker																
Clerk																
Seaman																
Domestic Helper																
Factory Worker																
Entertainer																
Waiter									1	10					1	1.43
Accountant											1	10			1	1.43
Laundress					2	20					1	10			3	4.29
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be shown that most or 30 are unemployed; while the least or one is a tricycle driver, a beautician, a carpenter, a waiter, an accountant and a laundress. Data reveal that there are many unemployed respondents in Ugac Sur.

Table 7 presents the distribution of respondents according to number of brothers and sisters.

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents according to Number of Brothers and Sisters

Number of Brothers and Sisters	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1	1	10							2	20	2	10			5	7.14
2	2	20			3	30			2	20			2	20	9	12.9
3			2	20	1	10	1	10					1	10	5	7.14
4	2	20	1	10	2	20	3	30	1	10	2	20	2	20	13	18.6
5	2	20	2	20	2	20	2	20	1	10					9	12.9
6	2	20	1	10	2	20	3	30	3	30	4	40	3	30	18	25.7
7			2	20									1	10	3	4.3
8	1	10	2	20			1	10			1	10	1	10	6	8.6
9									1	10					1	1.43
10 and Above											1	10			1	1.43
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be gleaned that most or 18 respondents have 6 brothers and sisters; while the least or one respondent have nine and ten and above.

Table 8 shows the distribution of respondents according to religion.

Table 8: Distribution of Respondents according to Religion

Religion	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Roman Catholic	5	50	10	100	3	30	9	90	9	90	9	90	10	100	55	78.6
Protestant	3	30			1	10									4	5.7
Jehovah's Witness					3	30									3	4.29
Methodist	1	10			1	10					1	10			3	4.29
Iglesiani Cristo	1	10			2	20	1	10							3	4.29
Mormons																
Born Again Christians									1	10					1	1.43
Church of Christ															2	2.86
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be inferred that 55 respondents are Roman Catholic; while one respondent is Born Again Christian It can be concluded that there are many Roman Catholics in Ugac Sur.

Table 9 reveals the distribution of respondents according to their ethnicity.

Table 9: Distribution of respondents according to Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4		Zone 5		Zone 6		Zone 7		Total Frequency	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Ybanag	3	30	6	60	2	20	2	20	3	30	4	40	5	50	25	35.7
Itawes	5	50	1	10	5	50	6	60	5	50	4	40	5	50	31	44.3
Ilocano	2	20			2		1	10	1	10					6	8.6
Malaweg																
Tagalog			3	30	1	10	1	10	1	10	2	20			8	11.4
Total:	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It shows that most or 31 respondents are Itawes; while the least or six respondents are Ilocano.

Table 10 shows the data gathered that would determine the level of awareness of the respondents of Ugac Sur on HIV/AIDS.

Table 10: Assessment of the awareness of respondents on HIV/AIDS

Questions	ZONE 1		ZONE 2		ZONE 3		ZONE 4		ZONE 5		ZONE 6		ZONE 7		TOTAL	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1.Unprotected sex with no assurance if you're the only person he/she is in relationship with is high risk to contract HIV/AIDS																

YES	9	90	10	100	10	100	7	70	8	80	10	100	7	70	61	87.1
NO	1	10					3	30	2	20			3	30	9	12.9
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
2.Having a sexually transmitted disease (STD) like genital herpes or syphilis makes it easier to get HIV																
YES	6	60	5	50	8	80	8	80	6	60	10	100	5	50	48	68.6
NO	4	40	5	50	2	20	2	20	4	40			5	50	22	31.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
3.Had unprotected sex with a multiple sex partner is a high risk of getting HIV/AIDS																
YES	6	60	10	100	8	80	7	70	9	90	9	90	9	90	58	82.9
NO	4	40			2	20	3	30	1	10	1	10	1	10	12	17.1
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
4.Had an unprotected sex with a man who has had sex with another man is high risk of getting HIV/AIDS																
YES	7	70	8	80	7	70	9	90	5	50	10	100	9	90	55	78.6
NO	3	30	2	20	3	30	1	10	5	50			1	10	15	21.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
5.There is no known cure to HIV/AIDS																
YES	6	60	4	40	6	60	6	60	8	80	9	90	5	50	44	62.9
NO	4	40	6	60	4	40	4	40	2	20	1	10	5	50	26	37.1
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
6.HIV/AIDS can be transmitted by mother's breast milk.																
YES	6	50	9	90	7	70	6	60	2	20	7	70	7	70	44	62.9
NO	4	50	1	10	3	30	4	40	8	80	3	30	3	30	26	37.1
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
7.HIV/AIDS can be transmitted by sharing needles for administering drugs																
YES	7	70	10	100	6	60	6	60	4	40	7	70	7	70	47	67.1
NO	3	30			4	40	4	40	6	60	3	30	3	30	23	32.9
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
8.HIV/AIDS can be transmitted during childbirth																
YES	8	80	10	100	6	60	3	30	3	30	8	80	8	80	46	65.7

NO	2	20			4	40	7	70	7	70	2	20	2	20	24	34.3
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
9.Men or women who have never had sexual intercourse may never contract HIV																
YES	6	60	5	50	7	70	8	80	6	60	9	90	7	70	48	68.6
NO	4	40	5	50	3	30	2	20	4	40	1	10	3	30	22	31.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
10.Condoms are effective for birth control and for protection against HIV and other sexually transmitted disease																
YES	9	90	4	40	9	90	8	80	9	90	8	80	8	80	55	78.6
NO	1	10	6	60	1	10	2	20	1	10	2	20	2	20	15	21.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
11.The HIV damages the immune system and the body becomes susceptible to illness and other infection																
YES	7	70	10	100	9	90	10	100	8	80	10	100	9	90	63	90
NO	3	30			1	10			2	20			1	10	7	10
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
12.HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites.																
YES	7	70	7	70	8	80	4	40	4	40	6	60	5	50	41	58.6
NO	3	30	3	30	2	20	6	60	6	60	4	40	5	50	29	41.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
13.HIV/AIDS can't be transmitted by sharing foods with an HIV positive person																
YES	8	80	8	80	7	70	3	30	2	20	8	80	5	50	41	58.6
NO	2	20	2	20	3	30	7	70	8	80	2	20	5	50	29	41.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
14.AIDS is a condition that describes an advanced state of HIV infection																
YES	7	80	10	100	8	80	8	80	9	90	9	90	9	90	60	85.7
NO	3	20			2	20	2	20	1	10	1	10	1	10	10	14.3
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

15.HIV can be transmitted by blood transfusion, semen, or vaginal secretion																
YES	8	80	10	100	7	70	6	60	9	90	9	80	7	70	56	80
NO	2	20			3	30	4	40	1	10	1	20	3	30	14	20
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
16.HIV/AIDS are the same and type of ailment																
YES	8	80	7	70	9	90	5	50	5	50	9	90	5	50	48	68.6
NO	2	20	3	30	1	10	5	50	5	50	1	10	5	50	22	31.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
17.AIDS defining illnesses follows wherein serious opportunistic infections occur from all types of agents(bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites)																
YES	9	90	1	10	7	70	8	80	9	90	9	90	7	70	60	85.7
NO	1	10	9	90	3	30	2	20	1	10	1	10	3	30	10	14.3
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
18.Person cannot contracted HIV or AIDS by hugging and kissing with a person with HIV or AIDS																
YES	5	50	8	80	7	70	7	70	2	20	7	70	8	80	44	62.3
NO	5	50	2	20	3	30	3	30	8	80	3	30	2	20	26	37.7
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
19.The healthy-looking person could have an HIV/AIDS																
YES	6	60	10	100	4	40	4	40	5	50	7	70	5	50	41	58.6
NO	4	40			6	60	6	60	5	50	3	30		50	29	41.4
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
20.Being faithful, having only one sex partner can prevent the HIV																
YES	9	90	7	70	10	100	6	60	7	70	7	70	7	70	47	67.1
NO	1	10	3	30			4	40	3	30	3	30	3	30	23	32.9
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
21.Are there symptoms for HIV/AIDS?																
YES	9	90	8	80	8	80	8	80	9	90	10	100	4	40	56	80
NO	1	10	2	20	2	20	2	20	1	10			6	60	14	20
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

22. Is HIV/AIDS one of the leading causes of death worldwide?																
YES	7	70	6	60	9	90	9	90	8	80	8	80	7	70	54	77.1
NO	3	30	4	40	1	10	1	10	2	20	2	20	3	30	16	22.9
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100
23. Can HIV/AIDS be prevented?																
YES	8	80	10	100	8	80	9	90	5	50	8	80	8	80	56	80
NO	2	20			2	20	1	10	5	50	2	20	2	20	14	20
TOTAL	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	10	100	70	100

It can be seen in table 10 that ten (10) respondents were taken from each of the seven zones of Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City. Each respondent was asked to answer Twenty-three questions. Most or 61 (87.1%) respondents answered yes that having unprotected sex with no assurance if you're the only person he/she is in relationship with is high risk to contract HIV/AIDS; while the least or 9 (12.9%) answered no. Most or 48 (68.6%) respondents were aware that having a sexually transmitted disease like genital herpes or syphilis makes it easier to contract HIV; while the least or 22 (31.4%) were not aware. Most or 58 (82.9%) respondents answered that having unprotected sex with a multiple sex partner is at high risk of contracting HIV/AIDS; while the least or 12 (17.1%) respondents answered no. Most or 55 (78.6%) respondents answered having unprotected sex with a man who had sex with another man is high risk of getting HIV/AIDS; while the least or 15 (21.4%) said no. Most or 44 (62.9%) respondents answered that there is no known cure to HIV/AIDS; while the least or 26 (37.1%) said no. Most or 44 (62.9%) respondents answered that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted by mother's breast milk; while the least or 26 (37.1%) respondents answered no. Most or 47 (67.1%) respondents answered that HIV can be transmitted by sharing needles for administering drugs; while the least or 23 (32.9%) said no. Most or 46 (65.7%) respondents know that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted during childbirth; while the least or 24 (34.3%) were not aware. Most or 48 (68.6%) respondents answered that men or women who never had sexual intercourse may never contract HIV; while the least or 22 (31.4%) answered no. Most or 55 (78.6%) respondents answered that condoms are effective for birth control and for protection against HIV and other sexually transmitted disease; while the least or 15 (21.4%) respondents said no. Most or 63 (90%) respondents said that HIV damages the immune system and the body becomes susceptible to illness and other infection; while the least or 7 (10%) said no. Most or 41(58.6%) respondents were aware that HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites; while the other respondents or 29 (41.4%) respondents said no. Most or 41 (58.6%) respondents said that HIV /AIDS can't be transmitted by sharing foods with an HIV positive person; while 35 (41.4%) respondents also answered no. Most or

60 (85.7%) respondents said that AIDS is a condition that describes an advanced state of HIV infection; while the least or 10 (14.3%) respondents said no. Most or 56 (80%) respondents were aware that HIV can be transmitted by blood transfusion, semen, or vaginal secretion; while the least or 14 (20%) said no. Most or 48 (68.6%) respondents answered that HIV/AIDS are the same and type of ailment; while the least or 22 (31.4%) said no. Most or 60 (85.7%) respondents were not aware that AIDS defining illnesses follows wherein serious opportunistic infections occur from all types of agents (bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites); while the least or 10 (14.3%) respondents were aware. Most or 44 (62.3%) respondents answered that person cannot be contacted with HIV/AIDS by hugging and kissing with a person with HIV/AIDS; while the least or 26 (37.7%) answered no. Most or 41 (58.6%) respondents said that a healthy-looking person could have and HIV/AIDS; while the least or 29 (41.4%) respondents said no. Most or 47 (67.1%) respondents are aware that being faithful, having only one sex partner can prevent the HIV; while the least or 23 (32.9%) said no. Most or 56 (80%) respondents answered that there are symptoms for HIV/AIDS; while the least or 14 (20%) said no. Most or 54 (77.1%) respondents said that HIV/AIDS is one of the leading causes of death worldwide; while the least or 16 (22.9%) said no. Most or 56 (80%) respondents said that HIV/AIDS may be prevented; while the least or 14 (20%) answered no.

CONCLUSION

The breakdown of percentages as presented on the tables indicates that not all transmission, prevention and causes of HIV/AIDS are known by the respondents' of Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City.

There is no significant difference among the profile of the respondents and the level of awareness on HIV/AIDS. Based on the survey, the respondents despite their demographic profiles shared equal knowledge on HIV/AIDS.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After a thorough analysis of data, the following recommendations are hereby made:

EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

Despite fair knowledge on HIV/AIDS in Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City there is a need for improving the availability of information through the professional health routes. This recommendation emerges along with the documented evidence.

Concerted effort and cooperation of the barangay officials and public health agencies to circulate information about HIV/AIDS is highly recommended. It is important that they should provide safety measures on how to avoid the spread and occurrence of the disease.

REFERENCES

1. Beschner; GS, Brown BS; Handbook on Risk of AIDS: Injection Drug Users and Sexual Partners. Greenwood Press. Westport, CT1993
2. <http://www.chanrobles.com/republicacts/republicactno8504.html#.UPkUjB2R84I>
3. http://www.congress.gov.ph/download/basic_15/HB04244.pdf