ABSTRACT

This is a descriptive study aimed at promoting safe sex conduct to prevent HIV/AIDS among factory workers in Sampran District, Nakhon Pathom Province, Thailand. Self-administered questionnaire was an instrument to determine factors involving the conduct of safe sex. Three hundred and twenty-nine workers responded. The instrument elicited information about socio-demographic characteristics of workers including knowledge, attitude, perception, source of information regarding HIV/AIDS and safe sex conduct of workers.

The result of the study showed that respondents received an average monthly income of more than 6000 baht per month, 74 percent lived with a family, 61 percent of workers finished high school, 70.8 percent of respondents were married and lived together with spouses. The finding also revealed that safe sex conduct for males was 69.9 percent and 66.7 percent for females. The majority of workers showed that they had good knowledge about HIV/AIDS. Most of the respondents (97.9 percent) knew that HIV could be transmitted through sexual intercourse without using a condom. Most of them knew that mosquito bite, blood transfusion, and hair cut cannot transmit HIV/AIDS. However, they misunderstood the fact that breast feeding cannot transmit HIV infection and that there were only a small proportion who knew that having only one partner can protect them from HIV/AIDS. Most of the respondents considered television, radio, newspaper, and posters as the most important source of information. No significant difference was found between their safe sex conduct and other socio-demographic characteristics except for marital status, that is, married workers had more safe sex conduct than the unmarried ones.