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### **Abortion patient whose family thinks she is a virgin: Results of a cross sectional survey**

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**Aim:** To determine the prevalence and pattern of substance abuse among principals in private as well as sub private institutions in pune district India with a view to minimizing the effects of substance abuse among them.

**Methods:** A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among 164 principals in private institutions in Pune. Cochrane formula for descriptive cross sectional study was used factors responsible for substance abuse. Participants were selected and all principals in private institutions in the study area have included in the study but multistage sampling technique has used to select the participants. Prevalence has determined by getting the percentage of the respondents who were involved in illicit drug use. Data were analysed with the aid of IBM-SPSS version 21.0. Results have presented in tables, frequency and charts.

**Results:** All the 164 Principals in private institutions selected for the study participated; giving a response rate of 100%. About two-third (66.5%) of the respondents were within the age group of 45-55 years. 58.5% of them were males and most (96.3%) of them were local. Most of the respondents' principals (87.2%) were married. And of the total number of respondents, 140(85.4%) resides with their PHD students while 11.6%, 2.4%, and 0.6% of them resides with a guardian, extended family member and siblings respectively. A few 17(10.4%) of the respondents abuse drugs and the drugs commonly abused include Cigar 23.5%, alcohol 41.2%, Ghutaka 11.8%, Cigarette 17.6%, and tobacco 5.9%. Reasons for substance abuse as narrated by respondents include: Peer pressure 41.2%, depression 5.9% and coping mechanism 41.2%. Other reasons given include curiosity 5.9%, and influence of media 5.9%.

**Conclusion:** The prevalence of substance abuse among the principals in private institutions studied was 10.4% and substances commonly abused among them include Cigar 23.5%, alcohol 41.2%, Ghutaka 11.8%, cigarette 17.6% and tobacco 5.9%. Factors responsible for substance abuse as revealed by respondents include: Peer pressure, depression, coping mechanism, curiosity and influence from the media.