

Comparative Assessment of Knowledge on Household Poisons and First-Aid Management of Poisoning among Medical and Non-Medical University Students in Pakistan

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Appendix A QUESTIONNAIRE

Section #1:

Personal data

Name: _____ (optional)

Email address: _____ (optional)

1. Please choose your Age group:

☐ 18- 20 years

☐ 21-23 years

☐ 23-25 years

☐ >25 years

2. Please choose your Gender:

☐ male

☐ female

☐ Non-binary

☐ other

3. Institute name:

☐ SMC-JSMU

☐ NED

4. Year of study:

☐ 1st year

☐ 2nd year

☐ 3rd year

☐ 4th year

☐ 5th year

Section #2:

Questions on poison information and its first-aid treatment

This questionnaire aims to test your knowledge of poison information and its first aid treatment. Please answer the following questions only if you know them.

1. Is it safe to give a person milk or an alkaline drink when they have swallowed an acidic poison? [22]

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't know

2. What should be done as a first step when a poison splashes into a person's eye? [23]

☐ Rinse the eye with clean water for at least 5 minutes.

☐ Rub the eye to remove the poison.

☐ Cover the eye with the bandage.

☐ Apply eye drops to neutralize the poison.

☐ Don't know.

3. What is the recommended position to place a person who became unconscious after ingesting a poison, and is still breathing? [12]

- ☐ Sitting position.
- ☐ Lying straight on their back position.
- ☐ Lying on left lateral side/recovery position.
- ☐ Lying with face down.
- ☐ Don't know.

4a. Do you know the emergency phone number for ambulances in your area? [12]

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No.

4b. If yes, please provide the emergency phone number for any ambulance service of your city.

5. What would you do if a family member displays symptoms of poisoning, such as nausea, muscle weakness, and headache, following exposure to pesticide spray, while waiting for Professional medical help? 22, 24

- ☐ Change his clothes and move to fresh air.
- ☐ Induce vomiting.
- ☐ Administer Charcoal.
- ☐ Give him water to drink.
- ☐ Don't know what to do.

6. Which snake bite mark indicates that the snake is poisonous? [25]

- ☐ 2 fangs mark.
- ☐ Multiple fangs mark.
- ☐ All snakes are poisonous.
- ☐ Don't know.

7. In case someone has ingested any poison by mouth, is it advisable to offer them water to drink? [12]

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

8. Do you think the paint on children's toys could potentially cause lead poisoning? [26]

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

9. What is the appropriate action to take if a person has been bitten by a potentially poisonous snake or insect? [12,25]

- ☐ Apply tourniquet.
- ☐ Keep the bitten limb immobilized after cleansing.
- ☐ Apply heat to the bitten area.
- ☐ Suck out at the venom.
- ☐ Don't know.

10. Do u think lead exposure can occur in children without obvious symptoms? [26]

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

- 11. Which of the following substances can cause poisoning? (Select all that apply)**
- ☐ Overdose of medicine. ☐ Some plants consumption.
- ☐ Some gases inhalation. ☐ Don't know.
- 12. What should you do if you suspect a child has ingested a toxic substance? [12,23]**
- ☐ Induce vomiting immediately.
- ☐ Give them milk to neutralize the problem.
- ☐ Call the poison control center/emergency.
- ☐ Observe and wait for any symptoms to develop.
- ☐ Don't know.
- 13. Do you think it is necessary to wear protective gear (personal protective equipment) before spraying pesticides? [24]**
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- 14. Do you think lead paint is more likely to be found in newer homes than in older homes? [26]**
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- 15. Do you think lead in the water can be removed by boiling? [26]**
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- 16. Which of the following is true regarding the properties of Carbon monoxide gas? [27]**
- ☐ No smell. ☐ Pungent smell.
- ☐ Purple color. ☐ Blue color.
- ☐ Don't know.
- 17. Do you think that staying in an unventilated garage with a car engine on, can lead to any type of poisoning? [27]**
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

This questionnaire has been prepared by researchers with the help of related literature [12,22,23,24,25,26,27].