Methods: Cross-sectional study with a sample with 530 students from secondary schools of a northern region of Portugal. The assessment protocol includes sociodemographic questionnaire (Correia 2004) and it was applied from October to December of 2011. Data analysis was performed using SPSS. The informed consent was obtain from schools.

Results: The proportion of students who know the current law on sex education in schools is 37.4%, the proportion of female students who know this law is greater than that of males (41.3% vs 32.2%). Exist a statistical significance between this knowledge and sex (p = 0.037), continuing the girls the most informed group. About 30% of students in this sample doesn’t identify basic concepts of sexual and reproductive health and family planning neither sexually transmitted infections. In relation to knowledge about contraception also found a statistical significant association with sex (p < 0.000), with a higher proportion of knowledge for the female group who also knows more than a contraceptive method (78.7% vs 55.7%).

Conclusions: The weak information of adolescents knowledge about sex education and gender differences still seem to persist in spite of the existence of sex education in schools from Portugal. Maybe sex education should be a subject in a curriculum from a school, being responsible for this subject a teacher that must be specialized in the area of sexuality.

Keywords: Teenagers. Sex education. Knowledge.

3. SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

SANITARY SURVEILLANCE OF MALE CONDOMS NATURAL LATEX SOLD IN THE CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

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Objectives: The increased importance of condom use as a tool to protect men and women against sexually transmitted diseases and HIV infection has raised awareness among health authorities regarding the quality of condoms. One of the main tests for the quality control of male condoms is the insufflation test, which assesses resistance by determining bursting volume and pressure.

Methods: We evaluated 20 brands of male condoms, domestic and imported, from eight manufacturers that are marketed in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The condoms were tested 200 units per brand.

Results: All brands met the criteria established in Brazilian National Health Oversight Agency Resolution no. RDC 62/2008, which allow up to eight nonconforming units. However, nonconforming units were identified in 12 of the brands tested.

Conclusions: From a perspective view of Sanitary Surveillance, not as a unit has serious implications for public health.

Keywords: Male condoms. Public health. Sexually transmitted diseases.

VALIDATION OF THE PORTUGUESE VERSION OF MATERNAL POSTPARTUM QUALITY OF LIFE QUESTIONNAIRE - MAPP-QOL

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Introduction: The quality of life has been widely used as a standard measure of health outcomes in different types of research. The postpartum period is a time of remarkable physical, emotional, and social changes, which impact in quality of life.

Objectives: To validate the Portuguese version of maternal postpartum quality of life Questionnaire in first-time mothers.

Methods: The methodology for the validation of MAPP-QOL was developed in four steps: translation, back translation, comparing the two versions and evidence of the validity of the new version. The MAPP-QOL is a self-administered, paper-and-pencil tool that measure mothers’ perceptions of QOL during the early postpartum period Likert type scale consisting of 40 items with five dimensions: psychological/baby; socioeconomic; relational/spouse-partner; relational/family-friends; and health & functioning. The non-probabilistic sample was constituted with 278 first-time mothers (inclusion criteria: vaginal delivery, unique new-born term, low risk pregnancy, partner co-habitation).

Results: We point out results that show validity and reliability of the Portuguese version of the MAPP-QOL as a very suitable tool for assessing the quality of life of postpartum women. The psychometric characteristics of the Portuguese version of the scale is comparable to those reported originally by Hill et al. (2006). The reliability of results is reflected by high levels of internal consistency of the MAPP-QOL and the total dimensions, and very good stability in time between the first and second application.

Conclusions: Pertinent results emerge from the validation study that identify real needs and allocation of services to this reproductive health care specific group of postpartum women with implications in their quality of life.

Keywords: Quality of life. Postpartum. Women health.

STUDY OF FACTORS DETERMINING CONDOM USED IN COLLEGE STUDENTS

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Introduction: The use of condoms has been advocated as a means of preventing the transmission of the HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) for sexually active youths. Behavioural interventions may contribute to reducing the incidence of STIs in three ways, promoting consistent use of condoms, reducing the sexual risk behavior and promote protective behaviors.

Objectives: The aim of this study was to identify factors that may influence condom use (gender, used a condom at 1st sexual intercourse, knowledge, attitude, health beliefs, social support, self-efficacy condom use, sexual risk behavior), to a sample of college students.

Methods: A cross-sectional and correlational study was conducted on a sample 1964 college students, with the mean age of 21 years (20.7±2.3), 77% had sexual intercourse. Data was collected through a self-questionnaire protocol, applied in the classroom. Data were summarized using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Results: Only 40, 5% of students sexually active were consistent condom users. Most participants had a median Knowledge (22.9 ± 5.9) and a positive attitude (161.8 ± 18.6 in a 196 score) about sexual and reproductive health. Attitudes (p<0.000), health beliefs (p ≤ 0.000), social support (p = 0.002), self-efficacy condom use (p = 0.008), and sexual risk behaviors including alcohol (p ≤ 0.000), drugs (p = 0.002) and casual partners (p = 0.008), were significant factors determining intentions to use condoms. When tested the significant variables in the logistic regression, all variables remained in the model except self-efficacy condom use.

Conclusions: To promote sexual and reproductive health, should give emphasis on changing attitudes, health beliefs, social support and risk behaviors.

Keywords: College students. Condom use. Sexual behaviors.