Abstract Title: Awareness about Consequences of Consanguinity, Attitude towards Premarital Genetic Testing and Practice of Consanguineous Marriage, Sudan 2018

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Abstract

Consanguinity refers to intra-familial marriage. High rate of consanguinity in any population along with other factors such as religion, ethnicity, language and geography, usually lead to create genetically isolated groups in which typically multigenerational pedigrees with several cases of rare diseases are expected.
As consanguineous marriages guards crucial effects on the health of offspring.
It was found that 40-45% of all marriages in Sudan are consanguineous, which remains among the highest rates worldwide.
Studies of individual genetic disorders in Sudan were overshadowed by interest in the other major causes of morbidity and mortality. In recent years, attention has been directed to red cell genetics and autosomal recessive disorders in general. With studies on Genetic Susceptibility to

Infectious Diseases causing the health burden in our developing country.
Premarital genetic testing and counselling and counseling are increasingly recognized as integral part of the much-herald preventive medicine.
Premarital care involves the promotion of health and well-being of a woman and her partner before pregnancy and is considered a primary preventive approach for couples planning for conception and an important step towards protecting society and allowing people to enjoy life. There for, it's important to implement of such programs in specific communities that are in much need to the clinical genetic approach.

This research is a cross-sectional Analytical study. Covering 8 states from Sudan, using non-probability conventional sampling technique. With a sample size of 1200 targeted. Collected by interview guided questionnaire by trained personal.

This research is a part of a project titled: Consanguinity and Health initiative.
The overall goal of the project is to conduct necessary research to raise attention to the emerging matter of consanguineous marriage in Sudan, specifically in areas, tribes, and families where consanguinity has brought cruel health outcomes, or caused the prevalence of diseases which are burden to the current health system.
This particular study is to inquire on the public background to the matter of consanguineous marriage and Premarital Genetic testing.

Professional Biography

Haythem Mohammed Gorshi Ahmed, I graduated from University of Khartoum faculty of medicine in April 2018.
Member of the consanguinity and health initiative team - Sudan.
Participating in an ongoing audit program regarding troponin request criteria in the U.K.
Participated in a medical elective program in cardiology at Freeman hospital, Newcastle university, The United Kingdom (20/5/2017 - 23/6/2017).
Was member of the self-study committee of accreditation of faculty of medicine university of Khartoum (from 1/2/2016 to 10/2/2018).



Represented Sudan at the IMSPQ (inter-medical school physiology quiz) at Malaya university Malaysia, 2014.
Financial secretariat at Khartoum Medical Student Association (KMSA) 2016/2017.
The academic secretariat for my batch (batch 89) from 2/6/2015 to 21/7/2016.
Conducted two research projects:
- Knowledge & practice of house officers towards acute limb ischemia in Ibrahim Malik, Bahri, & Omdurman teaching hospitals, Sudan, 2016.
- Knowledge & practice of Al-Karad residents towards scorpion stings, Al-Dabah locality, Northern state,Sudan, 2016.

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