

P-333 - A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF HEALTH CONCERNS OF FEMALE ADOLESCENTS

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Background & purpose: Adolescence is one of critical period of life with a variety of developmental changes, conflicts and concerns. To be most effective, adolescent health promotion efforts must in-corporate adolescents' perspectives on what health concerns means.

Material and methods: Sixty-seven female adolescents (12-19 years) and 11 key informants, recruited from urban and rural areas from Sari in the North of Iran using non-probability sampling, participated in eight focus group discussions and semi structured interviews. All tape-recorded data was fully transcribed and thematic analysis was done to identify key themes.

Results: Findings of this research around the adolescents' reproductive health services needs emphasized on 5 overarching themes including: Concern about the joint life with spouse, Concern about find a suitable job in accordance to her major, Poor self-image and Contradiction between truth and reality.

Conclusion: This study shows that subjects such as education, finding a job, common life in the future are the most concerns of Iranian female adolescents which could not ignore them easily and all from parents to policy makers should try enough efforts to solve them.