

# SRH of adolescents in schools schools for PWDs

Persons with disabilities have the same sexual and reproductive health (SRH) needs as the abled people but they often face barriers to SRH information and services which are necessary for healthy and safe relationships.

- [SRH for adolescents in schools for people with disabilities](#)

# SRH for adolescents in schools for people with disabilities



Open Access

## Research

### Sexual and reproductive health of adolescents in schools for people with disabilities



Mercy Obasi<sup>1</sup>, Stephen Manortey<sup>2</sup>, Kofi Adesi Kyei<sup>3,4\*</sup>, Michael Kwabeng Addo<sup>2</sup>, Sharon Talboys<sup>1</sup>, Lynette Gay<sup>1</sup>, Frank Baiden<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Public Health, University of Utah, West Africa Campus, Kpong, Ghana, <sup>2</sup>Department of Radiography, School of Biomedical & Allied Health Sciences, Accra, Ghana, <sup>3</sup>National Centre for Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine, Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra, Ghana

\*Corresponding author: Kofi Adesi Kyei, Department of Radiography, School of Biomedical & Allied Health Sciences, Accra, Ghana

Key words: Adolescent, assessment, disability, sexual, reproductive health

Received: 26/02/2019 – Accepted: 24/03/2019 – Published: 14/06/2019

#### Abstract

**Introduction:** persons with disabilities have the same sexual and reproductive health (SRH) needs as the abled people but they often face barriers to SRH information and services which are necessary for healthy and safe relationships, protection from HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). This study sought to assess the SRH services among adolescents with disabilities in four Special Needs Schools in Ghana. **Methods:** the study adopted a cross-sectional study design with a quantitative approach to data collection between the months of January to March, 2018. A structured and pretested questionnaire was used to collect data from adolescents with disabilities from selected schools in Ghana. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were performed using chi-square test and multivariate logistic regression. **Results:** majority of participants had hearing disability (52.1%). The average age at menarche among females was 13 years whilst the age at which puberty was attained among boys was 14 years. School teachers were the major source of information on SRH for the respondents (63.7%) followed by parents (12.2%). A majority (67.1%) of respondents had good knowledge of SRH. Factors which were significantly associated with knowledge level were age ( $p=0.026$ ), religion ( $p=0.034$ ), sources of information ( $p<0.001$ ), guardians ( $p=0.049$ ). **Conclusion:** the majority of participants had good knowledge of SRH, although their knowledge of contraceptive and access were poor. Only condoms were mostly known. There is the need for increased awareness on the availability of other contraceptives methods and the removal of barriers to contraceptive methods.

Pan African Medical Journal. 2019;33:299. doi:10.11604/panj.2019.33.299.18546

This article is available online at: <http://www.panfrican-med-journal.com/content/article/33/299/5/full/>

© Mercy Obasi et al. The Pan African Medical Journal - ISSN 1937-8688. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Pan African Medical Journal - ISSN: 1937- 8688 ([www.panfrican-med-journal.com](http://www.panfrican-med-journal.com))  
Published in partnership with the African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET). ([www.afenet.net](http://www.afenet.net))



**Title:** Sexual and reproductive health of adolescents in schools for people with disabilities

**Author (s):** Mercy Obasi, Stephen Manortey, Kofi Adesi Kyei &, Michael Kwabeng Addo, Sharon Talboys, Lynette Gay & Frank Baiden

**Year of Publication:** 2019

**Access Resource Here:**