

Self medication is the selection and use of medicines by individuals (or a member of the individual's family) to treat self diagnosed conditions or symptoms.

The study assessed the different factors influencing self medication practices among the residents of Nabisalu village in Makindye division and the specific objectives were;

To determine the socio demographic factors influencing self-medication practices among youths(15-49years) in Nabisalu village, Makindye division, Kampala City Council.

To determine the clients' knowledge, attitude and perception towards self-medication practices among residents (15-49years) in Nabisalu village, Makindye division, Kampala City Council.

To determine the health facility factors influencing self medication practices among residents (15-49 years) in Nabisalu village, Makindye division.

Simple random sampling was done to select 110 respondents in the study and the data was analyzed using SPSS version 16.

There were more female participants in the study 60/110 (54.5%) compared to the males 50/110(45.5%).

All of the respondents 110/110(100%) said they knew what self medication was and had various understandings of self medication.

Most of the respondents understood what self medication was and the following responses were given in regard to what they understood by the term self medication; use of drugs purchased over the counter following a doctor's prescription 10(9.1%), use of drugs not prescribed by authorized medical personell 60(54.5%), and the use of medicines prescribed by health personell to treat self diagnosed conditions 2(1.8%) and the use of drugs prescribed by a doctor at home/outside a health facility 10(9.1%).

Majority of the respondents 102(93%) and did not agree on using drugs when ill instead of seeing a health worker.

Self-medication is an area that requires the governments' and health authorities to ensure that things are done in a responsible manner, with well enforced policies taking care of the safety issues since it concerns the age of the user, disease conditions, potential allergies towards the drugs and their interactions.