

Study on diarrhoea caused by outside home prepared food among secondary school students in Omdurman Locality.

(July 2008- October 2008)

Abstract...

Food borne diarrhoea has become one of the notable problems now a day, especially in the developing countries. The negative attitude of officials towards fast food trader frequently reflects concerns about poor hygiene and the spread of diseases.

This study was done on two secondary schools in Omdurman locality (July – August 2008), and it included interviews with 181 students using questionnaires. I used SPSS analysis programme (version 16.0) to process my data.

The results showed that more than 83% of those students ate at least one meal outside home regularly, and 54.3% of them had at least one diarrhoeal episode during the period of the study. It was found that those who ate outside had incidents of diarrhoea five times more than those who did not.

By observational methods, it was found that the degree of food vendors and personnel hygiene was markedly insufficient.

The burden of diarrhoea on school performance was significant. It greatly affected their study, and health seeking behaviour was found to be very good.

The Government should take action to face this problem and lay down regulations and strictly apply them for food safety. Health workers should always be alerted, and required to routinely report any case of violation of such rules.