

Risky sexual behaviors are of particular concern in reproductive health in that they can lead to serious consequences both to the individuals involved and their sexual partners. Many people adopt risky behaviors without having adequate or correct information on how to protect themselves from the adverse consequences of these behaviors. They are as a result the major determinant of the spread of sexually transmitted infections among the sexually active population. This paper looks at the sexual behavior related to the spread of sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS using the 2006 Uganda Demographic and Health survey dataset for women. These include multiple sexual partnerships in the last 12 months preceding the survey, transactional sex, premarital sex and condom use. During the interview women were asked about how many sexual partners they had had in the year, whether they had exchanged any money, gifts or favors for sex, involvement in premarital sex and condom use at last sexual intercourse. In addition they were asked about whether they had had any sexually transmitted infections or symptoms in the last 12 months before the survey. Results of the study show that 4.8% of the 8513 women studied were involved in sex for gain, 39.7% reported having involved in premarital sex, 20% having multiple sexual relationships and 67.3% reported non condom use at their last sexual encounter. Involvement in premarital sex, multiple sexual partnerships and non condom use were significant sexual behavioral determinants of having sexually transmitted infections. Logistic regression shows statistical significance between risky sexual behaviour and sexual infection. Findings suggest the need for educating people about sexual transmission preventive messages that are aimed at transforming beliefs, norms and behaviour about sexual health among women in Uganda in both urban and rural areas. STIs prevention programmes should seek to understand and alter the risky sexual behaviour that increase susceptibility to sexual infections among the population.