

Supplementary materials

Table 1. Descriptive statistics of continuous study variables among students (n = 300).

Variables	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Standard Deviation
Age of student (years)	300	21	28	23.99	1.71
Knowledge score	300	8	12	11.31	0.87
Attitude score	300	19	34	27.56	2.52
Practice score	300	0	8	2.12	1.19

Table 2. Correct (yes) responses to knowledge questions by health science students at Debre Tabor Comprehensive Specialized Hospital, South Gonder Zone, North-west, Ethiopia, 2025 (300 respondents).

Questions	Frequency	Proportion (%)
Have you ever heard about psychoactive substances (alcohol, tobacco, khat, cannabis, etc.)?	283	94.3
Do you know that using substances can cause mental illness?	280	93.3
Do you know substance use can lead to dependence/addiction?	292	97.3
Do you know khat chewing can cause sleep disturbances?	279	93
Are you aware of university rules about substance use on campus?	278	92.7
Do you know the negative social effects that may result from drug addiction?	288	96
Do you know the possible negative effect of substance use on the educational career of a student?	286	95.3
Does the drugs and substances can alter mood?	284	94.7
Do you know the kinds of drugs that can be used?	279	93
Do you know excessive alcohol use can cause liver diseases?	281	93.7
Do you know that smoking increase the risk of lung cancer and heart disease?	281	93.7
Do you know where to get help to stop using substances if needed?	283	94.3
Overall knowledge on substance use	254	84.7

Table 3. Response to attitude questions by health science students at Debre Tabor Comprehensive Specialized Hospital, South Gonder Zone, North-west, Ethiopia, 2025 (300 respondents).

variables	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Agree		Strongly agree	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Substance use is acceptable among students.	160	53.3	125	41.7	4	1.3	11	3.7
Substance users are not given a fair chance to integrate into society.	37	12.3	210	70	27	9	26	8.7
Substance users may be necessarily lead to poor academic performance.	20	6.7	77	25.7	189	63	14	4.7
When students engage in drug and alcohol use, they get a lift and feel comfort.	12	4	90	30	167	55.7	31	10.3
Family environment play an important role in substance addiction.	5	1.7	31	10.3	230	76.7	34	11.3
I feel nervous around someone who uses illegal drugs.	17	5.7	114	38	150	50	19	6.3
Using substances helps reduce stress.	11	3.7	46	15.3	210	70	33	11
Strict rules should be enforced to control substance use on campus.	5	1.7	39	13	222	74	34	11.3
Drug education in school Should start at the primary level.	8	2.7	37	12.3	219	73	36	12
Drug addiction lead to therapeutic failure of many drugs.	81	27	141	47	77	25.7	1	3

Where: N = frequency, % = percentage

Table 4. Response to practice questions by health science students at Debre Tabor Comprehensive Specialized Hospital, South Gonder Zone, North-west, Ethiopia, 2025 (300 respondents).

Questions	category	frequency	percentage
1. Have you ever tried to use any substance?	yes	12	4
	no	288	96
2. Are you currently addicted to any substance?	yes	4	1.3
	no	296	98.7
Have you ever read about drug addiction?	yes	191	63.7
	no	109	36.3
3. Have you ever seen or interacted with addicted patients?	yes	172	57.3
	no	128	42.7
Have you ever participated in the treatment of a drug addict?	yes	115	38.3
	no	185	61.7
4. Have you ever advised someone struggling with addiction?	yes	33	11
	no	267	89
Have you ever experienced health, social, or functional problems because of substance use?	yes	101	33.7
	no	199	66.3
Have you ever tried to stop substance use but failed?	yes	8	2.7
	no	292	97.3