KESANS: International Journal of Health and Science

e-ISSN: 2808-7178, p-ISSN: 2808-7380

Web: <a href="http://kesans.rifainstitute.com/index.php/kesans/index">http://kesans.rifainstitute.com/index.php/kesans/index</a>



### The Influence of Knowledge Level on Adolescents' Interest in Practicing Ayurvedic Yoga to Alleviate Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS) Symptoms

### Nahdiyatul Mukaromah, Rifa'at Hanifa Muslimah

Midwefery, STIKes Prima, Indonesia nahdiyatulmukaromah@gmail.com

Article Information
Submitted: 12 December 2024

Accepted: 21 December

2024
Online Publish: 30

December 2024

#### Abstract

Introduction: Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS) is a condition characterized by behavioral and emotional changes that occur prior to menstruation. Common symptoms include altered appetite, weight gain, abdominal pain, back pain, lower back pain, headaches, breast tenderness and swelling, nausea, constipation, restlessness, irritability, anger, fatigue, and mood swings. One non-pharmacological approach to managing PMS symptoms is Ayurvedic yoga therapy. Understanding the relationship between adolescents' knowledge of Ayurvedic yoga and their interest in practicing it can provide valuable insights, particularly in promoting natural alternatives for PMS management. Aim: This study aims to examine whether there is a significant relationship between knowledge about Ayurvedic yoga and the interest in practicing it among adolescents experiencing PMS. Method: This research employs a quantitative approach using a cross-sectional design. The study population consisted of female adolescents aged 15 to 19 years. Participants were selected through purposive sampling. Data were collected using questionnaires assessing knowledge of and interest in Ayurvedic voga. Results: The analysis was conducted using the Mann-Whitney test, resulting in a p-value of 0.00 (< 0.05), indicating a statistically significant relationship between knowledge and interest in practicing Ayurvedic yoga among adolescents with PMS. Conclusion: Improving knowledge about Ayurvedic yoga has the potential to enhance adolescents' interest in adopting it as a strategy for managing PMS symptoms. Therefore, appropriate and informative education on the benefits and techniques of Avurvedic voga is essential

Keyword: Knowledge; Interest; Ayuverdic Yoga; Teenager; PMS

How to Cite Nahdiyatul Mukaromah, Rifa'at Hanifa Muslimah/The Influence of Knowledge Level on Adolescents' Interest in Practicing Ayurvedic Yoga to Alleviate Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS) Symptoms, Vol. 4, No. 3

DOI <u>https://doi.org/10.54543/kesans.v4i3.384</u>

e-ISSN/p-ISSN 2808-7178 / 2808-7380 Published by Rifa'Isntitute Nahdiyatul Mukaromah, Rifa'at Hanifa Muslimah/KESANS

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#### Introduction

Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS) is a psychoneuroendocrine disorder that leads to behavioral and emotional changes prior to menstruation (Shariati, Ghazavi, Saedi, Ghahremani, & Shariati, 2019). These symptoms typically subside a few days after menstruation begins (Saglam & Orsal, 2020). Although the exact cause of PMS remains unclear, fluctuations in estrogen, progesterone, androgens, and prolactin levels have been highlighted in its pathophysiology. Additionally, serotonin production in the brain appears to play a central role (Shariati et al., 2019). Other contributing factors may include hormonal imbalances, neurotransmitter activity, prostaglandins, dietary habits, lifestyle, obesity, hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis disorders, adrenal hormone secretion issues, nutritional deficiencies, and environmental influence (Yi, Kim, & Park, 2023).

Globally, approximately 47.8% of women of reproductive age experience PMS (Nascimento et al., 2020), with about 20% reporting symptoms severe enough to interfere with daily activities (Gudipally & Sharma, 2024). The remaining majority experience mild to moderate symptoms such as appetite changes, abdominal pain, and mood swings. Various treatment options are available to manage PMS symptoms, including both pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches (Bhuvaneswari, Rabindran, & Bharadwaj, 2019). Non-pharmacological therapies such as physical exercise, yoga, nutritional improvements, and social support are among the recommended interventions. (Saglam & Orsal, 2020).

Ayurvedic yoga originates from a traditional system of medicine that has evolved into a rational and evidence-based approach, emphasizing disease prevention and holistic health maintenance (Ayu, Andriyogi, & Santosa, 2022) (Chobe, Patra, Chobe, & Metri, 2022) Although Ayurvedic yoga offers a range of proven benefits, knowledge, and interest in its practice among adolescent girls with PMS vary widely (Tsai, 2016). Exploring the relationship between adolescents' knowledge of Ayurvedic yoga and their interest in practicing it may provide valuable insights for promoting natural PMS management (Pratiwi, Meidiantari, & Dewi, 2024). This study aims to determine whether there is a significant relationship between knowledge of Ayurvedic yoga and interest in practicing it among adolescents experiencing PMS.

#### Methods

This study employed a quantitative research design using a cross-sectional approach to explore the relationship between knowledge of Ayurvedic yoga and the interest in its practice among female adolescents experiencing PMS. The population in this study consisted of female adolescents aged 15 to 19 years. A total of 30 participants were selected using purposive sampling, based on inclusion criteria: female adolescents aged 15–19 years who had begun menstruating and agreed to participate. The exclusion criteria included adolescents with other medical conditions that could affect the menstrual cycle and those unwilling to participate. Data collection took place from February 28 to March 4, 2024, in RT 18, Babelan Kota Village. Data were gathered using a structured questionnaire designed to assess two primary variables: knowledge of Ayurvedic yoga

and interest in its practice. The knowledge questionnaire consisted of 12 items evaluating participants' understanding of the principles and practices of Ayurvedic yoga. The interest questionnaire comprised 10 items assessing the adolescents' willingness to engage in Ayurvedic yoga to alleviate PMS symptoms. Demographic data, knowledge levels, and interest were analyzed using descriptive statistics. To assess the correlation between knowledge and interest, a Chi-square test was initially planned. However, due to unmet assumptions, the Mann-Whitney U test was used to obtain valid statistical results.

#### **Results and Discussion**

### **Univariate Analysis**

Based on the results of the analysis above regarding the relationship between family income, family size, and knowledge of stunting in RAEOA, the following results can be found:

 Table 1

 Frequency of Respondents Based on Knowledge Level of Ayurvedic Yoga

Knowledge Level	f	%
Good	10	33.3%
Fair	16	53.3%
Poor	4	13.4%
Total	30	100%

As seen in Table 1, most respondents (53.3%) had a moderate level of knowledge regarding Ayurvedic Yoga. This finding contrasts with previous research (Romero, 2022) which noted that adolescents generally possess limited awareness and understanding of yoga, reflecting a lack of information among students. As explained, good knowledge plays a vital role in effective problem-solving, whereas insufficient knowledge can result in poor decision-making. (Ristanti & Windayanti, 2023).

Knowledge of yoga among adolescents contributes to their physical, emotional, and mental well-being by fostering resilience and self-regulation (Singh & Misra, 2018). Other studies highlight yoga as an effective strategy for alleviating psychological discomfort, unifying the mind and soul, and detaching from materialistic sensory experiences. Integrating yoga education into youth development programs may therefore be beneficial in promoting overall adolescent health

Table 2
Frequency of Respondents Based on Interest in Ayurvedic Yoga

Interest Level	f	%	
High	10	33,3%	
Moderate	20	66,7%	
Low	0	0%	
Total	30	100%	

Table 2 shows that most respondents (66.7%) had a moderate interest in practicing Ayurvedic Yoga. This result differs from prior research (Defika & Desiningrum, 2016) which reported a higher level of interest among adolescents. However, another study (Pooja Patel & Panchal, 2023) found that yoga can significantly reduce academic anxiety, which in turn may enhance interest in yoga as a coping mechanism. Promoting healthy lifestyles during adolescence is crucial, as it shapes their decisions and interests regarding health (Mingazov, Popel, & Mingazova, 2024).

### **Bivariate Analysis**

Table 3
Relationship Between Knowledge and Interest in Ayurvedic Yoga Among Adolescents with PMS

171-1	Interest				
Knowledge Level	High		Moderate		P-value
	f	%	f	%	7
Good	9	30%	1	3,3%	0,000
Fair	1	3,3%	15	50%	
Poor	0	0%	4	13,4%	
Total	10	33,3%	20	66,7%	

Table 3 indicates that 50% of respondents with moderate interest also had a fair level of knowledge about Ayurvedic Yoga. Initially, a Chi-square test was planned, but due to unmet assumptions, the Mann-Whitney U test was applied. The result yielded a significant p-value (p = 0.000 < 0.05), indicating a statistically significant relationship between knowledge and interest in Ayurvedic Yoga among adolescents with PMS.

These findings suggest that higher knowledge levels are positively associated with greater interest in Ayurvedic Yoga. Adolescents with better understanding were more inclined to engage in yoga practices than those with limited knowledge. According to Hendra (2008) (Widya, Usman, & Widowati, 2022). Peningkatan pengetahuan terhadap suatu hal akan menyebabkan pengingkatan minat seseorang (Rotgansa & Schmidtb, 2017). Semakin baik pengetahuan maka akan semakin baik minat yang ditujukan pada responden, sebaliknya jika pengetahuan kurang maka akan terbentuk minat yang rendah (Andaruni, N. Q. R., Harahap, A. P., Amilia, R., & Makmun, 2020). several factors influence knowledge acquisition, including education, occupation, media exposure, environment, and life experience. A higher level of knowledge often corresponds with greater personal interest. Interest reflects a person's internal desire to perform a specific behavior; therefore, increasing awareness can enhance motivation to engage in Ayurvedic Yoga (Nurbaiti & Nurita, 2020).

Solid knowledge of yoga equips adolescents with better coping mechanisms during PMS episodes (E, Masruroh, Lalo, & Sari, 2021). Evidence shows that yoga supports physical and emotional health by downregulating the hypothalamic–pituitary–adrenal (HPA) axis and the sympathetic nervous system through vagal stimulation, which

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regulates hormone secretion such as cortisol, glucose, plasma renin, epinephrine, and norepinephrine (Kamalifard, Yavari, Ghaffarilaleh, & Kasb-Khah, 2017).

Further research confirms that physical activity enhances hemoglobin, hematocrit, red blood cell count, and platelet count, while decreasing prolactin, estradiol, and progesterone levels. This leads to reduced fatigue, improved focus, and alleviation of other PMS symptoms (Andaruni, N. Q. R., Harahap, A. P., Amilia, R., & Makmun, 2020). Yoga also decreases inflammatory markers and promotes alpha brainwave activity, linked to relaxation and serotonin release, helping individuals feel more at ease after sessions (Kamalifard et al., 2017).

Studies also show that yoga reduces stress and anxiety—two common symptoms of PMS (Ghaffarilaleh, Ghaffarilaleh, Sanamno, & Kamalifard, 2019) (Sheila Patel et al., 2019). Through breathing and meditation practices, adolescents may experience emotional relief. Ayurvedic Yoga, rooted in traditional medicine, now adopts a rational and evidence-based framework focused on prevention, therapy, and holistic health (Ayu et al., 2022).

Introducing yoga to adolescents has been shown to reduce stress and enhance emotional resilience—vital during transitional teenage years (N & Rao, 2024). It also fosters mental wellness and stress relief through an integrative approach that harmonizes the body, mind, and spirit (Charan & Kumar, 2024). Ayurvedic Yoga offers an effective way to manage psychological distress, reconnect the self with inner peace, and detach from overreliance on material experiences (Waghe, 2023). Ayurveda not only strengthens physical health but also supports spiritual and mental growth. Yoga, as a core practice within this system, presents an enjoyable and effective method for alleviating PMS symptoms (Bhal, 2020).

#### Conclusion

The findings indicate a significant relationship between knowledge and interest in Ayurvedic Yoga among adolescents with PMS. Enhancing knowledge through proper and informative education on Ayurvedic Yoga—its benefits and techniques—can serve as an effective strategy to encourage its practice among adolescents for managing PMS symptoms.

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