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## SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC DATA IN THE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCYVIRUS(HIV)ANDBLOODCELLSTREATEDWITHANTIRETROVIRAL DRUGS

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A synergy between engineers and biological researchers may obviously be needed so as to achieve a more reliable research result. The spectrophotometric data in the interactions between the Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and blood cells treated with antiretroviral drug were collected to be used to show the effects of antiretroviral drugs on the absorbance characteristics of HIV infected and uninfected blood. The methodology involved the serial dilution of the five different antiretroviral drugs (two HAART/FDC and three single drugs) and the subsequent incubation with the blood samples collected from ten HIV infected persons that had not yet commenced treatment with the antiretroviral drugs, ten HIV infected persons that had already commenced treatment with the antiretroviral drugs and ten HIV negative persons, for the absorbance measurements using a digital Ultraviolet Visible MetaSpecAE1405031Pro Spectrophotometer. The peak absorbance data for various interacting systems were measured. These were used to show that the antiretroviral drug has the effect of increasing the peak absorbance values of both the infected and uninfected blood components, that is, the drugs are made able to increase the light absorption capacity of the blood cells. The use of the findings of this work in drug design by pharmaceutical industries may be expected to yield good results.

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## THE PREVALENCE OF SNORING AND ITS RISK FACTORS IN ADULTS IN THE UAE

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Snoring is increasingly being recognized as a public health concern with serious health consequences, but little information regarding its specific risk factors. Our main objective was to determine the prevalence of snoring among adults (20-60 years) in Sharjah and assess the major risk factors as well as the general knowledge among the population. A self-administrated Questionnaire that included both the Berlin and Epworth scales was given to a randomly selected population in Sharjah between the ages of 20-60 years. Data was analyzed using SPSS 22.0. 34.2% (n=139) of our population reported to be as snorers, 45.5% (n=185) were non-snorers and 20.4% (n=83) didn't know whether they snored or not. 43.2% of snorers were at high risk for sleep apnea based on the berlin questionnaire. Gender (P=0.038) was also significantly associated with snoring as (40.8%) from males reported as snorers while only (28.7%) of the females were. The elderly (50-60years) were at a higher risk than the younger ages as well as obese people (BMI>30) for 46.8% (n=49) of them reported snoring. Those who scored higher on the Epworth Scale were more likely to be snorers (P=0.001) and were likely to fall into the high risk category in the Berlin (p=0.035). In addition, smokers, chronic conditions like nasal septal deviation (15.1% (n=61)), hypertension (n=31) and diabetes (4% (n=16)) were also risk factors. Prevalence and major risk factors within the UAE are similar to that in other countries. Campaigns should be held to raise awareness about habitual snoring and its risk factors.

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