Prevalence of Alcohol and Tobacco Use in India and Implications for COVID-19 - Niyantrita Madhumeha Bharata Study Projections

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Abstract

Abuse of legal substances in India includes alcohol and tobacco, which are the major risk factors for various non-communicable diseases and deaths. The current pandemic has identified tobacco consumption as a risk factor for COVID-19, highlighting the need to control substance abuse. The objective of this study was to estimate the prevalence of substance abuse in India and discuss the cost-effective public health strategies (such as yoga) to alleviate COVID-related anxiety in order to prevent substance abuse and its associated co-morbidities such as type 2 diabetes mellitus. This study reports the data on tobacco and alcohol abuse from a nationwide randomized two-arm diabetes control trial (Niyantrita Madhumeha Bharata, 2017) conducted by the Indian Yoga Association (IYA) through Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA), Bengaluru. Data of 30,354 participants who abuse tobacco and 30,159 participants who abuse alcohol were collected all over India. The prevalence is estimated at around 8.7% for alcohol abuse and 7.9% for tobacco abuse, Arunachal Pradesh state ranking the highest regarding both alcohol and tobacco abuse, while the Tripura state ranked the lowest. School and college-based mandatory yoga programs need to be implemented to prevent the increase of substance abuse in India to alleviate the psychosocial stress of adolescents and college-going students, besides the installation of the mindfulness-based diabetes yoga protocol (DYP) in the wellness centers of Ayushman Bharat.

Keywords: Legal substance abuse, tobacco, alcohol, Niyantrita Madhumeha Bharata, diabetic yoga protocol.

Introduction

Alcohol and tobacco are legal substances that are often abused in India and constitute major risk factors for various diseases, also increasing the burden of non-communicable diseases, especially when these substances are used by the general public [1, 2].

Globally, 1.3 billion people are using tobacco products, and the annual death rate is around six million [3]. According to the 2018 World Health Organization (WHO) factsheet, tobacco abuse and addiction kill more than one million people in India, which is one-sixth of the world deaths due to tobacco usage and accounts for 9.5% of all deaths in India [4]. These facts inform us of the dangers of tobacco consumption on one's general health. Furthermore, the WHO reports indicate that tobacco-related deaths will rise to a million, accounting for 10% of global deaths by 2030, if appropriate measures are not taken [5]. Tobacco is a plant that is grown, and the leaves of the tobacco plant are dried and further fermented. The fermented tobacco leaves are converted to tobacco products, which can be either smoked as tobacco products or used as smokeless tobacco products. The smoked tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, bidis, rolled cigarettes, cheroots, hookah pipes, tobacco rolled in maize leaf and newspaper, chillum [6, 7], while the smokeless tobacco products available include khaini, betel quid with tobacco, gutka, tobacco lime mixture, pan masala, oral tobacco, snuff and others [7].

Currently, electronic cigarettes known as e-cigarettes and flavored tobacco products are on the rise in India and across the world [8]. The chief ingredient of tobacco causing addiction is nicotine, which is a carcinogenic agent responsible for various diseases and has high mortality [9]. Tobacco consumption leads to multiple diseases such as ischemic heart disease, hypertension, neoplasia, especially lung cancer, throat cancer, tracheal cancer, oral cancer, oesophageal cancers, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), lower respiratory tract infections, male infertility, and other diseases [10]. Considering the current COVID-19 pandemic across the world due to the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-COV-2), it has been reported that angiotensin-converting enzyme-2 (ACE-2) receptors are the target receptors for the SARS COV-2 virus [11, 12] and the nicotine, being the major component in tobacco, it directly impacts the putative receptor of the ACE-2 enzyme making the individual vulnerable and at higher risk for the COVID 19 attack [13].

According to the WHO, there are three million deaths yearly anually due to alcohol consumption, which constitutes around 5.3% of total deaths globally and 5.1% of the global burden of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) due to alcohol consumption [14]. In India, a study conducted by Girish *et al.* estimates that 13% of the Indian population consumes alcohol, with a higher percentage of males consuming alcohol compared to females [15]. The consumption of alcohol leads to various digestive or cardiovascular diseases, including cancer. Around 900,000 deaths are due to alcohol-related injury across the world [14]. It is estimated that about 336 persons die every day due to alcohol consumption, and 40% of road traffic accidents are related to alcohol intake [16, 17]. Multiple systematic reviews and meta-analyses have shown that with an increase in alcohol consumption, the risk for type 2 diabetes mellitus increases in heavy drinkers [18-20]. Since India is the diabetic capital, there is an urgent need to prevent not only alcohol-associated comorbidities but also alcohol addiction.

The main objective of the current study was to estimate the prevalence of the consumption of legal substances such as alcohol and tobacco in India and discuss various non-pharmacological cost-effective ways (such as yoga) that can restrict the consumption of alcohol and tobacco, thereby preventing people from becoming addicts. There is growing evidence about the positive effects of yoga on the control of type 2 diabetes mellitus [21, 22], stress (one of the precursors/motivation for the use of tobacco and alcohol) [23, 24], and addiction [25]. This helps to control the increasing addiction to legal substance abuse in India.

Material and Methods

The present study was a part of a larger project - Niyantrita Madhumeha Bharata (NMB), 2017 (Diabetes control in India). This study was a nationally representative door-todoor cross-sectional survey in India. Out of 29 states and 7 union territories in India, 26 states and four union territories were included.

This study was funded by the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. The study was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee of the Indian Yoga Association (IYA), Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA), Bengaluru (vide Res/IEC-IYA/001 dt 16.12.16). Informed consent was obtained from all the participants during the door-to-door survey. Data were collected from adults above 18 years of age.

The entire methodology of the project has been published in two papers [26, 27]. The whole country was divided into six zones in India, represented in Figure 1. In states with 10 to 30 districts, 2 districts were selected, and from a state with 10 or fewer districts, one district was selected for sampling. The door-to-door survey, which included the basic demographic information of the participants and information about legal substance use (alcohol and tobacco) in India, was used. At the time of carrying out this study, the implications of the COVID pandemic were not foreseeable.

The data were simultaneously collected from all the regions (Figure 1). Since a large amount of data was obtained, the information was uploaded in the NMB apps and was cross-verified randomly. The hard copies of the data and data centralization were carried out at S-VYASA. The data that was collected for this manuscript is shown in Figure 2. We have excluded the Punjab state from our analysis as the non-response to the questions regarding alcohol and tobacco use were very high and causing statistical errors. The statistical analysis was done using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (IBM Statistics for windows, SPSS v21.0), and the significance of associations (p-value) were calculated using the chi-square analysis at S-VY-SVA, Bengaluru, India.

Results

The data collected from the door-to-door survey of the NMB 2017 under IYA and S-VYASA University represented in Figure 2 were analyzed. Table 1 shows the prevalence and gender-wise distribution of legal substance abuse (both alcohol and tobacco) in India. We noticed that the prevalence of alcohol abuse (8.7%) was higher than the tobacco abuse (7.9%). When compared among the genders, both alcohol and tobacco consumption was higher among males (15.8% alcohol and 13.1% tobacco) when compared to females (3.2% tobacco and 2.4% alcohol).

For further analysis, we have divided the tobacco abuse among various states and union territories in India, as shown in Table 2. The highest rate of tobacco abuse was found in Arunachal Pradesh, belonging to the north eastern part of India, and the lowest tobacco abuse was seen in Tripura state.

As with tobacco abuse, we have divided the prevalence of alcohol abuse among various states and union territories



Figure 1: Different zones of India.



Figure 2: The number of participants from the door-to-door survey.

in India, as shown in Table 3. The highest percentage of alcohol abuse was found in Arunachal Pradesh, and the least alcohol abuse was seen in the Tripura state. The prevalence pattern of alcohol abuse is similar to the tobacco abuse pattern. The weighted percentages of the individual states and union territories were included in Table 4.

Discussion

From the data of 30,354 participants that abuse tobacco and 30,159 participants that abuse alcohol, it was seen

that 7.9% and 8.7% of people abuse tobacco and alcohol, respectively. This is the nationally representative population. In a study conducted by Prakash *et al.*, it was noted that among 35,102 men aged above 45 years, the prevalence of tobacco use was around 15%, which is close to our study where a similar percentage of 13.1% of tobacco abuse was seen in men. The slight difference might be due to the inclusion of people aged 18 years or above in our sample [28]. It is also noted that more than 50% of people who consume alcohol are also tobacco abusers, which was concluded in the same study [28]. Due to the lack of awareness among the people in rural areas, a higher prevalence of tobacco and alcohol consumption

Gondor	Tobacco		P Value		Alcohol			
Gender	Abuse	No Abuse	Total	F-value	Abuse	No Abuse	Total	F •value
Mala	1879	12449	14328	<0.001	2252	11.997	14249	<0.001
wale	13.1%	86.9%	100%	<0.001	15.8%	84.21%	100%	<0.001
Fomolo	508	15491	15999	<0.001	389	15493	15882	<0.001
remale	3.2%	96.8%	100%		2.4%	97.6%	100%	<0.001
Tranagandar	2	25	27	<0.05	0	28	28	0.00
mansgender	8%	92.00%	100%		0%	100%	100%	0.00
Total	2389	27965	30354	~0.01	2641	27490	30159	<0.01
TOTAL	7.9%	92.1%	100%	<0.01	8.7%	91.3%	100%	SU.UT

 Table 1: Gender-wise distribution regarding tobacco and alcohol abuse in India.

Table 2: Prevalence of tobacco abuse among various states and union territories in India.

State/Union Territory	Gender	No Tobacco Abuse	Tobacco Abuse	Total	P-Value
A . I I	Male	108	23	131	
Andaman and Nicobar	Female	181	15	196	
Nicobai	Total	289 (88.4%)	bacco Abuse Tobacco Abuse Total 108 23 131 181 15 196 19 (88.4%) 38 (11.6%) 327 (100%) 684 29 713 595 21 616 79 (94.7%) 50 (5.3%) 1329 (100%) 197 60 257 240 22 262 38 (84.2%) 82 (15.3%) 520 (100%) 291 65 356 479 15 494 70 (90.6%) 80 (9.4%) 850 (100%) 67 25 92 224 2 226 210 62 272 367 21 388 77 (87.4%) 83 (12.6%) 660 (100%) 180 0 180 188 3 191 38 (99.2%) 3 (0.8%) 371 (100%) 1222 216 1438 1218 7 1225 2	<0.06	
	Male	684	29	713	
Andhra Pradesh	Female	595	21	616	
	Total	Gender No Tobacco Abuse Tobacco Abuse Male 108 23 Female 181 15 Total 289 (88.4%) 38 (11.6%) Male 684 29 Female 595 21 Total 1279 (94.7%) 50 (5.3%) Male 197 60 Female 240 22 Total 438 (84.2%) 82 (15.3%) Male 291 65 Female 291 65 Female 291 65 Total 770 (90.6%) 80 (9.4%) Male 67 25 Female 224 2 Total 291 (91.5%) 27 (8.5%) Male 210 62 Female 367 21 Total 577 (87.4%) 83 (12.6%) Male 188 3 Total 368 (99.2%) 3 (0.8%) Male 1218 7 <t< td=""><td>50 (5.3%)</td><td>1329 (100%)</td><td>0.425</td></t<>	50 (5.3%)	1329 (100%)	0.425
	Male	197	60	257	
Arunachal Pradesh	Female	240	22	262	
	Total	438 (84.2%)	82 (15.3%)	520 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	291	65	356	
Assam	Female	479	15	494	
	Total	770 (90.6%)	80 (9.4%)	850 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	67	25	92	
Chandigarh	Female	224	2	226	
	Total	291 (91.5%)	27 (8.5%)	318 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	210	62	272	
Chhattisgarh	Female	367	21	388	
	Total	577 (87.4%)	83 (12.6%)	660 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	180	0	180	
Delhi	Female	188	3	191	
	Total	368 (99.2%)	3 (0.8%)	371 (100%)	0.091
	Male	1222	216	1438	
Guiarat	Female	1218	7	1225	
Gujalat	Transgender	2	0	2	
	Total	2442 (91.6%)	223 (8.4%)	2665 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	73	14	87	
Haryana	Female	73	1	74	
	Total	146 (90.7%)	15 (9.3%)	161 (100%)	<0.002
	Male	1176	105	1281	
lammu and Kashmir	Female	1782	31	1813	
	Transgender	8	0	8	
	Total	2996 (95.7%)	136 (4.3%)	3132 (100%)	< 0.001

	Male	640	109	749	
Jharkhand	Female	838	63	901	
	Total	1485 (85.4%)	136 (14.6%)	1739 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	2297	206	2503	
Karnataka	Female	2449	42	2491	
Ναιτιατακά	Transgender	3	0	3	
	Total	5128 (95.3%)	253 (4.7%)	5381 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	701	154	855	
Madhya Dradach	Female	1018	49	1067	
Mauliya Flauesh	Transgender	1	0	1	
	Total	1720 (89.4%)	203 (10.6%)	1923 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	222	54	276	
Maninur	Female	578	16	594	
wampur	Transgender	1	0	1	
	Total	801 (92.0%)	70 (8.0%)	871 (100%)	< 0.001
	Male	760	157	917	
Maharashtra	Female	1013	36	1049	
	Total	1773 (89.9%)	193 (10.1%)	1972 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	186	7	193	
Meghalaya	Female	304	6	310	
	Total	490(97.4%)	13 (2.6%)	503 (100%)	0.229
	Male	700	55	755	
Orissa	Female	737	29	766	
	Total	1437 (94.5%)	84 (5.5%)	1521 (100%)	< 0.001
	Male	398	31	429	
Pondicherry	Female	438	3	441	
	Total	836 (96.0%)	34 (4.0%)	870(100%)	< 0.001
	Male	385	207	592	
Pajasthan	Female	339	39	378	
Rajastilali	Transgender	2	0	2	
	Total	726 (74.7%)	246 (25.3%)	972 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	1055	83	1138	
Tamil Nadu	Female	1436	24	1460	
	Total	2491 (95.9%)	107 (4.1%)	2598 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	145	1	146	
Tripura	Female	104	0	104	
	Total	249 (99.6%)	1 (0.4%)	250 (100%)	0.398
	Male	115	7	122	
Uttar Pradesh	Female	56	2	58	
	Total	171(90%)	19 (10%)	190(100%)	0.135
	Male	192	15	207	
Uttarakhand	Female	261	2	263	
	Total	453(96.4%)	17 (3.6%)	470(100%)	<0.001
	Male	224	101	325	
West Bengal	Female	385	57	442	
	Total	609 (79.4%)	158 (20.6%)	767 (100%)	<0.001
Total		27965 (92.1%)	2389 (7.9%)	30354 (100%)	<0.001

State/Union Territory	Gender	No Alcohol Abuse	Alcohol Abuse	Total	P-Value
	Male	117	14	131	
Andaman and Nicobar	Female	195	1	196	
	Total	312 (95.4%)	15 (4.6%)	327 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	667	48	715	
Andhra Pradesh	Female	600	19	619	
	Total	1267 (95.0%)	67 (5.0%)	1334 (100%)	<0.002
	Male	152	106	258	
Arunachal Pradesh	Female	184	78	262	
	Total	337 (64.7%)	184 (35.3%)	521 (100%)	0.2
	Male	260	102	362	
Assam	Female	480	21	501	
	Total	740 (85.7%)	123 (14.3%)	863 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	60	33	93	
Chandigarh	Female	223	3	226	
	Total	283 (88.7%)	36 (11.3%)	319 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	202	73	275	
Chhattisgarh	Female	377	12	389	
	Total	579 (87.2%)	85 (12.8%)	664 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	190	1	191	
Delhi	Female	180	0	181	
	Total	370 (99.7%)	1 (0.3%)	371 (100%)	0.331
	Male	1323	142	1465	
Guiarat	Female	1234	13	1247	
oujulut	Transgender	2	0	2	
	Total	2559 (94.2%)	155 (5.8%)	2714 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	64	23	87	
Haryana	Female	76	0	76	
	Total	140 (85.8%)	23 (14.2%)	163 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	1178	108	1286	
Jammu and Kashmir	Female	1811	2	1813	
	Transgender	8	0	8	
	Total	2997 (96.5%)	110 (3.5%)	3107 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	626	208	834	
Jharkhand	Female	888	30	918	
	Transgender	9	0	9	
	Total	1523 (86.5%)	238 (13.5%)	1761 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	2155	349	2504	
Karnataka	Female	2419	76	2495	
	Transgender	3	0	3	
	Total	4577 (91.5%)	425 (8.5%)	5002 (100%)	<0.001
	Male	780	123	903	
Madhya Pradesh	Female	1074	16	1090	
	Transgender	2	0	2	
	Total	1856 (93.0%)	139(7.0%)	1995(100%)	< 0.001

Table 3: Prevalence of alcohol abuse among various states and union territories in India.

Maharashtra	Male Female Transgender Total	135 590 1 1796 (91.0%)	142 4 0 177 (9.0%)	277 594 1 1973 (100%)	<0.001
Manipur	Male Female Total	749 1047 726 (83.3%)	174 3 146 (16.7%)	923 1050 872 (100%)	<0.001
Meghalaya	Male Female Total	176 309 485 (96.2%)	18 1 19 (3.7%)	194 310 504 (100%)	<0.001
Orissa	Male Female Total	713 698 1411 (92.0%)	54 69 123 (8.0%)	767 767 1534 (100%)	0.162
Pondicherry	Male Female Total	440 326 766 (88.0%)	1 103 104 (12.0%)	441 429 870 (100%)	<0.001
Rajasthan	Male Female Transgender Total	451 348 2 801 (82.7%)	135 32 0 167 (17.3%)	586 380 2 969 (100%)	<0.001
Tamil Nadu	Male Female Total	1452 944 2396 (91.9%)	12 199 211 (8.1%)	1464 1143 2607 (100%)	<0.001
Tripura	Male Female Total	102 144 246 (98.4%)	2 2 4 (1.6%)	104 146 250 (100%)	0.731
Uttar Pradesh	Male Female Total	60 111 171 (86.0%)	1 27 28 (14.0%)	61 138 199 (100%)	0.001
Uttarakhand	Male Female Total	194 261 455 (96.8%)	13 2 15 (3.2%)	207 263 470 (100%)	0.001
West Bengal	Male Female Total	288 437 725 (94.0%)	39 7 15 (6.0%)	327 444 771 (100%)	<0.001
Total		27490 (91.3%)	2641 (8.7%)	30159 (100%)	<0.001

of more than 30% is seen especially in the older adults across various places in India [29, 30]. It was also noticed in various studies that tobacco and alcohol constitute a major risk for non-communicable diseases such as cardio-vascular diseases, cancer, and others [31, 32]. Also, there is no comprehensive study on the usage of substances by adolescents. In a large sample study done by Jaisoorya *et al.*, the prevalence of psychological distress was reported to be around 34.8% among college-going students and adolescents. This fact seems to have negative outcomes, especially in the case of substances that lead to addictions

gradually [33]. Therefore, the importance of preventing the usage of substance abuse in adolescents is highlighted.

It is generally perceived that there is a lack of strict regulation about tobacco and alcohol abuse because of the apparent link with Government revenue generated for the country by the tobacco and alcohol industry annually. For example, the tax revenue in 2019 generated from smoking cigarettes alone is 348.34 billion Indian rupees, which is 15% higher than the 2018 fiscal year, pointing to the increase in the consumption of tobacco annually [34]. Similar estimates of excise revenues from the alcohol in-

Table 4. The weighted	percentages of the in-	dividual states for subje	ects that abuse tobacco	and alcohol included in the stud	łv
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State/Union Territory	Weighted Percentage		
State/Onion Ternitory	Tobacco	Alcohol	
Andaman and Nicobar	1.08%	1.08%	
Andhra Pradesh	4.38%	4.44%	
Arunachal Pradesh	1.71%	1.78%	
Assam	2.80%	2.86%	
Chandigarh	1.05%	1.06%	
Chhattisgarh	2.17%	2.20%	
Delhi	1.22%	1.23%	
Gujarat	8.78%	9.00%	
Haryana	0.53%	0.54%	
Jammu and Kashmir	10.32%	10.30%	
Jharkhand	5.73%	5.84%	
Karnataka	17.73%	16.59%	
Madhya Pradesh	6.34%	6.61%	
Manipur	2.87%	2.89%	
Maharashtra	6.50%	6.54%	
Meghalaya	1.68%	1.67%	
Orissa	5.01%	5.08%	
Pondicherry	2.87%	2.88%	
Rajasthan	3.20%	3.21%	
Tamil Nadu	8.56%	8.64%	
Tripura	0.82%	0.83%	
Uttar Pradesh	0.62%	0.66%	
Uttarakhand	1.55%	1.56%	
West Bengal	2.53%	2.56%	
Total	100%	100%	

dustry are approaching 10.4 trillion Indian rupees in 2019-20. By 2023, it is estimated the sales will increase [35]. In contrast, the health care GDP of India has remained at one percent of the last ten years since 2009, although the GDP per-capita of Indians has doubled between 2009-10 and 2017-18. However, the GDP of developed countries such as the United States of America is around 18% [36]. Considering the statistics, the need of cost-effective solutions towards substance abuse is required at various levels of age groups to increase the health of the country, especially in times of the COVID19 pandemic.

One of the cost-effective solutions that should be considered for implementation in order to reduce legal substance abuse and its associated comorbidities is yoga, especially the Diabetic Yoga Protocol (DYP) developed by the Ministry of AYUSH by a 16-member committee across the country (Figure 5) [37, 38]. The DYP protocol is a 60-minute session with a regular follow-up that can facilitate both the release of stress caused by the closure of liquor and wine shops in the country during the current lockdown and also prevent the conversion of prediabetes to diabetes [21, 23, 25]. This is highly required, especially in the northern states of India, such as Arunachal Pradesh, due to the high usage of legal substances.

School and college-based mandatory yoga programs to control psychosocial stress

The adolescent and college-going students display psychosocial and academic stress [39], which is higher than most countries partly due to the population of the country [40]. The increasing propensity towards substance abuse such as alcohol and tobacco [35, 39] also renders tobacco consumers and other addicts that are more vulnerable to diabetes and COVID-19 infection [41]. To reduce such stress among adolescents and college-going adults, a mandatory three-day yoga programme per week needs to be implemented [37]. This yoga protocol has been shown to reduce stress and control diabetes in the nation-wide study that took place in India [42, 43]. The early implementation of such protocols among teenagers that go to school coupled with awareness about the harmful effects of smoking and alcohol abuse can result in substantial reduction and prevention of addiction in the near future [44].

Mindfulness-based DYP into the wellness centers of Ayushmann Bharat

In February 2018, the Indian government had launched a universal health coverage program known as Ayushmann Bharat to control non-communicable diseases. As a part of the program, 150,000 public peripheral health centers focused on health and wellness agenda are being operationalized for delivering comprehensive primary health care by the end of 2022 [45, 46]. As a part of these centers, mindfulness-based DYP must be introduced into these wellness centers to reach out to the public, which will be a cost-effective non-pharmacologic way to reduce substance abuse in India. Several randomized controlled trials on the effect of yoga [47, 48] and mindfulness [25] on substance abuse have shown positive results towards the cessation of substance abuse over time. The introduction of the mindfulness-based DYP into the wellness centers will prevent substance abuse at the initial stages and decrease the global disease burden.

The sample used in this study was collected across the country; however, the sample is not representative of each individual state, and a convenient sample size was taken from each state. In some states, the non-response rate for the questions about tobacco and alcohol abuse was high, and states such as Punjab were excluded from the data collection process to prevent statistical errors. There might have been reporting bias in the statements of individuals who have abused tobacco and alcohol only once. This paper did not help us give the right percentages of tobacco and alcohol abuse in the transgender population as this population sample is insufficient.

Conclusion

From this current study, it is estimated that around 8.7% of alcohol and 7.9% of tobacco users exist in India, with the

Table 5: Summary of the AYUSH Diabetes Yoga Protocol [25].

S. No	Name of the Practice	Duration (in min)
1.	Starting Prayer: Asatoma Sat Gamaya Tataso Maa jyotir - gataya Mrtyor-Maa Amrtam gamaya Om Shaantih Shaantih Meaning: From ignorance, lead me to truth; From darkness, lead me to light; From death, lead me to immortality; 'Om peace, peace, peace.	2
2.	 Loosening Exercises (Preparatory Sukshma Vyayamas and Shithililarna Practices): Urdhavahastashvasan (Upward Tree Position) (Hand Stretch Breathing 3 rounds at 90 degrees, 135 degrees and 180 degrees each) Kati-Shakti Vikasaka (3 rounds) Forward and Backward Bending; Twisting. Sarvangapushti (3 rounds clockwise, 3 rounds anticlockwise) 	6
3.	 Surya Namaskara (SN) (Sun Salutation) a. 10-step fast Suryanamaskara (Fast Sun Salutation) 6 rounds; b. 12-step slow Suryanamaskara (Slow Sun Salutation) 1 round. Modified version Chair SN: 7 rounds 	9
4.	Asanas (Pose/Posture) (1 min per Asana) 1. Standing Position (1 min per Asana) Trikonasana (extended triangle pose), Parvritta Trikonasana (revolved triangle pose), Prasarita Padhastasana (Wide-Legged Forward Bend) 2. Supine Position Jatara Parivartanasana (Master Revolved Abdomen Pose), Pawanamuktasana (Wind-Relieving Pose), Viparitakarani (Upside-Down pose) 3. Prone Position Bhujangasana (Cobra Pose), Dhaurasana (Bow Pose) followed by Pawanamuktasana (Wind-Relieving Pose) 4. Sitting Position Mandukasana (Frog Pose), Vakrasana / Ardhamatsayendrasana (Half Spinal Twist Pose), Paschimatanasana (Seated Forward Bend), Ardha Ushtrasana (Half Camel Pose); At the end, relaxation with abdominal breathing in supine position (vishranti), 10-15 rounds (2 minutes)	15

5.	 Kriya (Outward Physical Manifestation) a. Agnisara (Abdomen Churning): 1 minute, b. Kapalabhati (Skull Shining Breathing Technique) (60 breaths per minute for 1 minute followed by rest for 1 minute) 	3
6.	 Pranayama (Breathing Techniques) a. Nadishuddhi (Alternate Nostril Breathing) [for 6 minutes, with antarkumbhak (Internal Breath Retention) and jalandhar bandha (Chin Lock) for 2 seconds] b. Bhramari (Humming Bee Breathing): 3 minutes 	9
7.	Meditation (for stress, for deep relaxation and silencing of mind) Cyclic Meditation	15
8.	Closing Prayer: Sarvebhavantu Sukhina Sarve Santu Nirāmayaah Sarve Bhadrani Paśyantu Maa KaScid-Duhkha-Bhag-Bhavet Om Shaantih Shaantih Shaantih Meaning: Let all be happy, free from diseases. Let all align with reality, let no-one suffer from miseries. 'Om peace, peace, peace.	1
	Total duration	60

highest rate of tobacco abuse in Arunachal Pradesh and the lowest in Tripura (for both types of substance abuse). To prevent the disease burden from legal substances abuse, a cost-effective non-pharmacological approach (considering the GDP of India for health) is required. Such approaches include a school/college-based mandatory yoga program to control psychosocial stress in adolescents, including the installation of DYP into the wellness centers of Ayushmann Bharat for the general population to prevent legal substance abuse and decrease the disease burden on the country.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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