Prevalence of AIDS fatigue among patients at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital.

Presenter: Monique Haynes
Introduction

AIDS fatigue

- desensitization of a population to the severity of HIV/AIDS
- high level of exposure
HIV/AIDS prevalence is 6.4% amongst adults (age 15–49).

- Females rate of infection higher than males (7.5% versus 5.0%).
- 940,000 total cases
- 120,000 new cases
Methodology

- Questionnaire – 4 questions
- First 3 questions – yes or no response
- Last question – multiple choice
- Volunteer interpreters
- Only age > 15
- Patients, attendants, staff, healthcare workers.
### Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Healthcare worker</th>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Attendant</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Age:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
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</tbody>
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1. Is HIV or AIDS treatable?  Yes  No

2. Is HIV or AIDS curable?  Yes  No

3. Do you hear about HIV or AIDS too much?  Yes  No

4. What way would you prefer to hear about HIV or AIDS?
   
   a. Someone (an educator) telling you about the disease
   
   b. Reading about the disease
   
   c. Watching a program about the disease
   
   d. Other (please describe):
Results

- With 13 participants... 84.6% of participants felt like they heard about HIV/AIDS too much.
- With 109 participants... 84.4%.
- This is more than double the percentage that I was expecting.
Survey Demographics

- 51.4% Female (50.3% Female)
  48.6% Male
- 11.0% HIV infected (Urban residents 10.2% HIV infected).
Healthcare workers (HCW)

- Physicians
- Medical Students
- Sample size = 20
- 75% male, 25% female
Healthcare workers (HCW)

- How do you think the level of AIDS fatigue amongst HCW compared to that amongst the rest of the sampled population?
  - Higher
  - Same
  - Lower
Healthcare workers (HCW)

- How do you think the level of AIDS fatigue amongst HCW compared to that amongst the rest of the sampled population?
  - Higher
  - **Same**
  - Lower
Healthcare workers (HCW)

- AIDS Treatable: 95.0% Yes
- AIDS Curable: 100% No
- AIDS Fatigue: 85.0% Too much
Staff

- Nurses
- Small sample (3)
- 66.7% Male
- 33.3% Female
Staff

- AIDS Treatable: 66.7% Yes
- AIDS Curable: 100% No
- AIDS Fatigue: 100% Too much
Patients and Attendants

- Sample size = 86
- 40.7% male
- 59.3% female
Patients and Attendants

- AIDS Treatable: 52.3% Yes
- AIDS Curable: 72.1% No
- AIDS Fatigue: 83.7% Too much
Women

- 10.7% infected
- 51.8% AIDS treatable
- 73.2% AIDS not curable
- 87.5% AIDS fatigue
- Prefer to learn from an educator
Men

- 11.3% infected (16.2%)
- 69.8% AIDS treatable (59.5%)
- 83.0% AIDS not curable (75.7%)
- 81.1% AIDS fatigue (81.1%)
- Prefer to learn from educators (same)
Majority prefer to learn about HIV and AIDS from an educator. (A = educator)
Second preferred manner of learning about HIV and AIDS was through radio programs.
Patients and Attendants

Radio West
Radio Ankole
  ◦ Program Katuhurirane
Vision Radio
  ◦ Program Tusheshure
  ◦ Straight talk
Discussion

- High number of interpreters
- Quality of interpreters (some better than others)
Discussion

- Concept of surveying
- Terminology (treatable versus curable)
- Cultural bias (television versus radio)
- Use of all survey participants as a representative sample for Ugandan residents.
AIDS fatigue present in over 80% of participants.
Level of fatigue similar amongst different groups, and men and women.
Conclusion

- Over half of population outside of healthcare realm know that HIV/AIDS is treatable, over 70 percent know that HIV/AIDS is not curable.
- Majority of general population prefer to learn about HIV/AIDS from an educator.
Acknowledgements

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Questions