

Misconceptions about HIV/AIDS and stigma associated beliefs in an urban Community, Southwest, Nigeria: Implication for intervention programs

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Background information



- ❖ Nigeria is located in West Africa, with an estimated 3.7 percent of the population living with HIV (VERT, 2012)
- ❖ The prevalence rate varies across the country, ranges from 0.2–15.2%
- ❖ Osun state has a prevalence of 2.7% as at 2012 survey
- ❖ Worldwide, Nigeria has the second highest number of new infections reported each year,

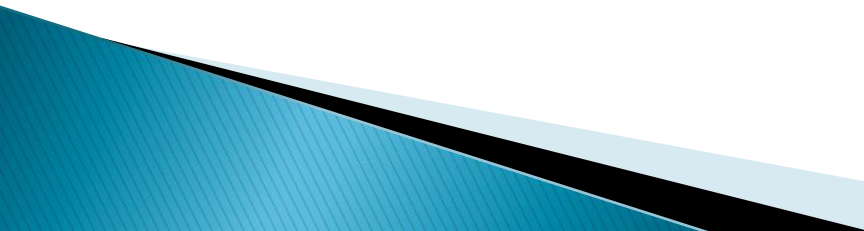
Statement of problem

- ❖ Stigma and discrimination against PLWHA are obstacles in the way of effective responses to the HIV epidemic

It complicates

- ❖ decisions about testing,
- ❖ Unwilling disclosure of HIV status,
- ❖ ability to negotiate prevention behaviours, including use of family planning services, PMTCT etc
- ❖ With the associated social issues—loss of marriages, livelihood etc

Study Objective

- ▶ To identify misconceptions about HIV/AIDS and stigma associated beliefs in an urban Community, in Southwest, Nigeria
 - ▶ To determine respondent awareness and knowledge on HIV/AIDS.
 - ▶ To assess the beliefs of the respondents about HIV/AIDS
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Methodology

- ✘ **Study Area:** Osogbo metropolis in Nigeria
- ✘ **Study design:** Cross sectional descriptive survey
- ✘ **Study population:** Adult men and women in Osogbo Local Government Area of Osun state
- ✘ **Sampling technique :** Multi stage sampling technique
- ✘ **Calculated Sample size :** 501
- ✘ **Data collection:** quantitative
- ✘ **Data management:** Using SPSS version 17,0

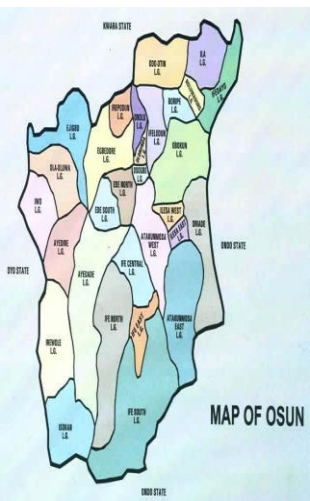
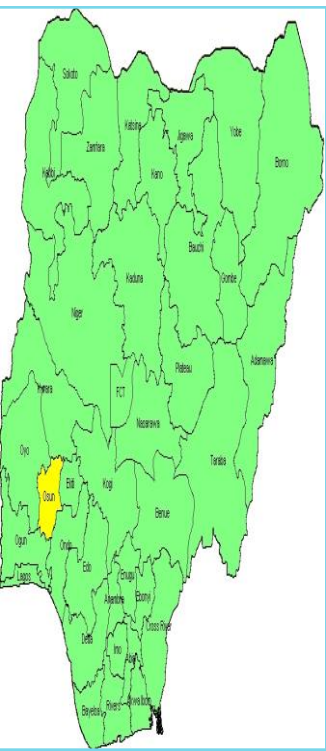


Table 1: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE (%)
N = 449		
AGES (YEARS)		
Less than 21	41	9.1
21-30	188	41.9
31-40	99	22.0
41-50	88	19.6
51-60	28	6.2
61 and above	5	0.9
SEX		
Male	177	39.4
Female	272	60.6
OCCUPATION		
Professional	236	52.6
Unskilled	19	4.2
Artisan	22	4.9
Trader	27	6.0
Farmer	3	0.7
Schooling	120	26.7
Unemployed	22	4.9
EDUCATION STATUS		
Primary	30	6.7
Secondary	72	16.0
Tertiary	340	75.7
Uneducated	7	1.6
RELIGION		
Christian	321	71.5
Muslim	123	27.4
Traditional	5	1.1
MARITAL STATUS		
Single	180	40.1
Married	265	59.0
Divorce	3	0.7
Separated	1	0.2

TABLE 2: Awareness and knowledge of respondent of HIV/AIDS

N = 449 VARIABLES	FREQUENCY (PERCENTAGE)		
	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Ever heard of HIV/AIDS	438(97.6%)	10(2.2%)	1(0.2%)
HIV/AIDS can be transmitted through; kissing	208(46.3%)	204(45.4%)	37(8.3 %)
Hugging	114(25.4%)	295(65.7%)	40(8.9%)
Toilet sharing	129(28.7%)	271(60.4%)	49(10.9%)
Sharing of cup and spoon	132(29.4%)	272(60.6%)	45(10%)
Know any symptoms of HIV/AIDS	254(56.6%)	151(33.6%)	26(5.8%)
Know anyone with HIV/AIDS	46(10.2%)	376(83.7%)	19(4.2%)
HIV/AIDS is curable	102(22.7%)	219(48.8%)	128(28.5%)
It is a spiritual attack	40(8.9%)	332(73.9%)	78(17.4%)

Table 3: Perception of the respondents about HIV/AIDS

N=449 VARIABLES	FREQUENCY(PERCENTAGE)		
	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Perception about HIV/AIDS			
HIVAIDS is an act of God's punishment	111(24.7%)	245(54.6%)	68(15.1%)
Sex Education help prevent HIV/AIDS	397(88.4%)	32(7.1%)	20(4.5%)
The use of condom prevent HIV/AIDS	290(64.6%)	80(17.8%)	79(17.6%)
Abstinence is the best means of prevention	310(69%)	70(15.6%)	69(15.4%)
Done HIV testing before	240(53.5%)	209(46.5%)	0 (0%)

TABLE 4: Perception about PLWHA

VARIABLES (N=449)	FREQUENCY (PERCENT)		
	YES	NO	NOT SURE
PLWHA are promiscuous	130(29.0%)	172(38.3%)	147(32.7%)
can still live a normal life can live with PLWHA	357(79.5%)	57(12.7%)	35(7.8%)
Suicide is the best option for PLWHA	380(84.6%)	40(8.9%)	29(6.5%)
can be a friend with PLWHA	50(11.1%)	370(82.4%)	29(6.5%)
can employ PLWHA	340(75.7%)	67(14.9%)	42(9.4%)
can allow PLWHA to treat you	315(70.2%)	76 (16.9%)	52(11.6%)
can allow PLWHA to treat you	162(36.1%)	215(47.9%)	72(16.0%)
PLWHA can get married	162(36.1%)	215(47.9%)	72(16.0%)
PLWHA should be secluded from the society	245(54.6%)	140(31.2%)	64(14.2%)
PLWHA should be secluded from the society	74(16.5%)	333(74.2%)	42(9.3%)

TABLE 5: Effect of socio–demographic status on perception of respondents towards PLHIV

N=449 VARIABLE	FREQUENCY		PERCENTAGE		Statistics	
	WRONG PERCEPTION	RIGHT PERCEPTION	X ²	P values		
Age group (in years)						
Less than 20	13(9.5%)	10(6.6%)	4.657	<i>P</i> =0.142		
21–30	58 (42.4%)	82(53.9%)				
31–40	34(24.8%)	39(25.7%)				
41–50	24(17.5%)	10(6.6%)				
51–60	5(3.6%)	10(6.6%)				
61 and above	3(2.2%)	1(0.2.366%)				
Gender						
Male	55(40.1%)	76(42.7%)	6.207	<i>P</i> =0.253		
Female	82(59.9%)	102(57.3%)				
Occupation						
Professional	63(46.0%)	100(56.4%)	27.256	<i>P</i> =0.142		
Unskilled	13(9.5%)	2(1.1%)				
Artisan	11(8.0%)	8(4.5%)				
Trader	11(8.0%)	4(2.2%)				
Farmer	3(2.2%)	1(0.3%)				
Schooling	33(24.1%)	53(29.8%)				
Unemployment	3(2.2%)	10(5.6%)				
Educational Status						
Primary	11(8.0%)	5 (2.8%)	16.987	<i>P</i> =0.001		
Secondary	33 (24.1%)	23 (12.9%)				
Tertiary	90(65.7%)	149(84.0%)				
Uneducated	3(2.2%)	1(0.3%)				


Table 6: Regression of education, occupation and some selected knowledge and perception variables

	occupation (constant=professionals group)	education (constant= uneducated)
Knowledge of any symptoms of HIV/AIDS	OR=0.66, 95%CI=0.5010-0.8660, p=0.012	OR= 1.85, 95%CI=1.3804-2.4910, p=0.013
Agreed that the use of condom prevent HIV/AIDS	OR=0.31, 95%CI=0.2244-0.4164, p=0.001	OR=0.96, 95%CI=0.6185-1.1947, p=0.6105
Have done HIV testing before	OR=0.96, 95%CI=0.7424-1.2540, p=0.7360	OR=2.72, 95%CI=2.0438-3.6102, p=0.2024
Said that PLHIV should be secluded from society	OR=4.99, 95%CI=3.6471-6.8161, p=0.119	OR=0.66, 95%CI=3.3670-5.1516, p=0.4971

Discussion

- ▶ High level of awareness due to mass media campaigns on HIV/AIDs globally, similar to myler et al in South- Africa,2006.
- ▶ Misconceptions about HIV transmission are high as significant proportions said HIV could be transmitted through kissing, hugging e.t.c
- ▶ Similar misconceptions was reported by Unnikrishnan et al in india.
- ▶ This if unchecked can serve as a barrier to uptake of HIV services.

Discussion

- ▶ There was significant association between the level of education and positive perception about PLHIVs
 - ▶ This implies that education is important in provision of care and support to PLWHA especially at the community level
 - ▶ This is similar to reports from other study in Ethiopia by Lifeson et al.
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Conclusion

- ▶ There is high awareness about HIV in Nigeria, with education being a predictor of correct perception about HIV and PLWHA
- ▶ However, there is a an appreciable proportion of the population with misconception, discriminating and stigmatizing beliefs about people living with HIV
- ▶ There is urgent need to improve the contents of information aired on the mass media to ensure that correct information is given out to the people

Thank You for Listening

Comments and contributions.