

**Background** A growing emphasis on patient involvement in health care decisions has brought 'patient participation' and 'informed choice' to the core of the debates. Health care decisions, based on interpersonal relationships between the health worker and the patient, may be viewed along a continuum from paternalistic approaches to approaches emphasising counselling, patient involvement and patient choice. A key question is how the new models are implemented and experienced in diverging cultural contexts. Infant feeding by HIV positive women in low income contexts is challenging in terms of health care decisions, and rapidly changing guidelines complicate the picture. The present study explored experiences with different approaches to health care decisions within infant feeding counselling in 'prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV' (PMTCT) programmes.

**Methods** 9 months of ethnographic fieldwork were conducted in two hospitals in rural and semi-urban areas of Tanzania. Core informants were nurses and HIV positive women.

**Results** Hospital A presented no informed patient choice in infant feeding counselling - emphasising exclusive breastfeeding. The programme adapted their approach to what seemed realistic in terms of conditions of little or no actual choices. HIV positive women in hospital A communicated a clear understanding of the 'instructions' given. Hospital B expressed that they followed the national guidelines emphasising patient choice. The women enrolled in this programme experienced confusing messages. Findings show that in none of the hospitals counselling and choice principles were implemented as presented in the literature, as they were not found feasible.

**Conclusion** In health care systems which have been dominated by paternalistic interactions, partly due to the knowledge gap between the health workers and patients, the introduction of concepts such as counselling and patient choice are challenged both by culturally constituted notions of decision making and by patient groups with limited knowledge and with no actual feeding choices.

**P4.143 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH WITH HIV-RELATED HIGH RISK BEHAVIOURS AMONG FEMALE SEX WORKERS IN SHIRAZ - IRAN**

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**Background** Psychological problems have significant associations with HIV-related high-risk behaviours among female sex workers (FSW). The present study aimed to investigate emotional intelligence and mental health and their relationships with high-risk behaviours among FSW in Shiraz, Iran.

**Methods** This cross-sectional study, conducted from October 2011 to May 2012, was based on a convenience sampling method used to recruit 125 FSW and 125 control women. After providing informed consent, each woman completed validated questionnaires (SCL-90-R, Bar-On Emotional Quotient [EQ] Inventory and high-risk behaviours).

**Results** In comparison to the control group, the mean age at first sexual relationship was lower among sex workers, and most of them (80.4%) had not used condoms in their most recent sexual intercourse. FSW showed lower EQ scores and more psychological symptoms in all dimensions ( $P < 0.003$ ). A significant inverse relationship was found between global severity indexes (GSR) scores and use of a condom in the most recent sexual intercourse. According to EQ scores, significant relationships were observed for interpersonal skills and stress management with the number of sexual

partners during the previous week and condom use in the most recent sexual intercourse ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Discussion** Considering the relationship of high-risk behaviours with lower emotional intelligence and mental health among FSW, psychological interventions are needed in order to prevent high-risk behaviours and HIV transmission.

**P4.144 WITHDRAWN BY AUTHOR**

**P4.145 HEALTH PROMOTION STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING LIFE SKILLS TO FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN**

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**Introduction** Sri Lankan schools setup makes every effort to improve wellbeing of school children. One objective is develop life skills to promote sexual well being. Advocacy, skill building of education officer and school teachers were carried out using health promotion strategies with participatory approach. Health promoting schools were established and concept were introduced to achieve in which the school community for developing life skills.

**Objective** To assess the usefulness of Health promotion strategies for developing life skills to fight against HIV/AIDS among school children

**Methodology** Audit and check list methods were used to assess the application of some health promotion strategies. Altogether 20 pre and post focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted, with school teachers before and after establishing the health promoting schools to assess the knowledge on HIV/AIDS. Content analysis was used. A quantitative post intervention survey were carried out to assess knowledge and attitudes among school children using a scientific sampling technique in three consecutive years

**Results** Audit and check list methods revealed that more than 80% of schools were implemented health promotion strategies in related to HIV/AIDS prevention by adopting various strategies including the relevant policies.

FGDs revealed that the majority of teachers had poor knowledge on transmission and prevention of HIV/AIDS and post intervention FGDs revealed that majority had improved the knowledge up to satisfactory level on transmission and prevention.

Quantitative survey among school children showed more than 80% of school children ranked the knowledge on transmission, prevention and misconception of HIV/AIDS during year 2009 and 90% and 89% in year 2010 and 2012 respectively.

**Conclusions** Skill based education via school teachers is a successful method to improve knowledge and attitude among school children on HIV prevention. Health promotion strategies were useful for developing life skills to fight against HIV/AIDS among school children

**P4.146 DISCLOSING GENITAL HERPES: PERCEPTIONS OF MOTIVATION, LOGISTICS AND TIMING**

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**Objective** The aim of the study was to evaluate the lay public's portrayal of disclosure of Herpes simplex virus (HSV) infection.

**Methods** The Australian Herpes Management Forum and Novartis Pharmaceuticals organised an on-line contest in 2011, challenging