

The dissemination of HIV/AIDS Risks in the Project Context

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ABSTRACT

This initiative aimed to educate project staff, including local inhabitants of the Karanganyar region, about HIV/AIDS within the project context and strategies for its prevention and management. This community service contributes to its scientific domain, specifically the K3 Project, to assist the K3 programme. In 2021, there were 72 HIV cases reported in the Karanganyar district, with 53 cases in men and 19 cases in women. Given the significant prevalence of HIV in this area, awareness initiatives about HIV/AIDS are conducted near the dam project to clarify prevention activities, particularly targeting local project personnel. We conduct community service initiatives transparently within the project framework to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS, its characteristics, and preventive measures. Additionally, we facilitate a Q&A session with project personnel about HIV/AIDS. The outcome of implementing and periodically assessing community service initiatives involves distributing questionnaires following focus group discussions to ascertain the efficacy of HIV/AIDS awareness activities within the project context.

Keywords: HIV/AIDS; Project Environment; Labourers.

INTRODUCTION

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) targets human lymphocytes, leading to a deterioration of the immune system, increasing vulnerability to numerous diseases, complicating recovery from opportunistic infections, and perhaps resulting in mortality. Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a constellation of symptoms resulting from the increasing impairment of the immune system caused by the HIV virus. 1 The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is termed 'human' as it exclusively infects humans and 'immune-deficiency' due to its detrimental impact on the immune system and is categorised as a virus because it lacks the capacity for self-replication, relying instead on host cells for propagation (Conserve et al., 2022). The HIV virus assaults human white blood cells, resulting in diminished immunity and thus increasing susceptibility to illness. This virus is responsible

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for AIDS. The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) affects white blood cells, leading to a deterioration of human immunity. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a constellation of symptoms resulting from diminished immunity owing to infection with HIV. Due to diminished immunity, the individual is highly vulnerable to numerous infectious diseases (opportunistic infections) that are frequently lethal (Campbell & Cornish, 2010). Individuals with HIV require antiretroviral therapy to avert opportunistic infections and their associated consequences.

We identified the initial case of HIV/AIDS in the area in April 1987. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS patients has consistently risen annually. According to data from the Data and Information Centre of the Ministry of Health, from the initial case of HIV/AIDS identified in Indonesia until the first quarter of 2016, there are 191,073 individuals diagnosed with HIV and 77,940 with AIDS. 2 The cumulative number of HIV patients rose over the previous year, with 150,296 individuals in 2014 and 55,799 individuals diagnosed with AIDS. 3 The prevalence of HIV/AIDS cases in the country remains significantly elevated, garnering the attention of several sectors, including government entities, health organisations, social institutions, the community, and academia. HIV/AIDS can disseminate universally, affecting everyone, influenced by several circumstances and varying quantities (Keating et al., 2006). The central government's policy to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission has been in effect since 2002; nevertheless, its field implementation remains suboptimal. 4 In 2011, there were 755 instances of HIV/AIDS infection; in 2012, this number dropped to 607 cases. Conversely, cases of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) rose from 521 cases in 2011 to 797 cases in 2012. In 2011, Central Java recorded 89 AIDS-related fatalities, which rose to 149 in 2012.

The global incidence of HIV/AIDS cases is documented in the data provided by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS). Data from 2019 indicates that the highest HIV-infected population globally resides in Africa (25.7 million individuals), followed by Southeast Asia (3.8 million) and the Americas (3.5 million). On the other hand, the Western Pacific records the lowest figure, with 1.9 million individuals. The significant prevalence of HIV infection in Southeast Asia necessitates heightened vigilance against the virus's spread and transmission. Data pertaining to HIV/AIDS cases exhibit variability. Nonetheless, the incidence of HIV/AIDS cases persists in rising every year. A 2013 poll done by the Health Office revealed that 79% of teenagers aged 14-24 lacked a correct understanding of HIV/AIDS, whereas 21% demonstrated accurate awareness of the condition. Thirteen per cent of individuals aged 14-24 have received comprehensive and appropriate HIV/AIDS knowledge, information, and education, whereas eighty-seven per cent have not. In light of the aforementioned phenomenon, the community service team recognises that HIV/AIDS is no longer a societal taboo. Consequently, to enhance comprehensive understanding of HIV/AIDS,

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we facilitate health counselling as part of the Dam Development Project, particularly for workers. Health counselling can be conducted using several ways, including the lecture method, brainstorming method, film screening method, and leaflet method.

RESEARCH ELABORATIONS

The event occurred on November 25, 2022, at the project site. The Dam Project provides the HIV/AIDS socialisation programme to all project staff to enhance their knowledge on HIV/AIDS prevention methods. The strategy employed is a lecture aimed at disseminating knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS, its characteristics, prevention strategies, and related topics. The lectures aimed to elucidate the HIV/AIDS disease, its modes of transmission, associated indications and symptoms, screening procedures, and management techniques. Prior to the conversation, Toolbox Meetings/Safety Talks serve as an effective method to reinforce the significance of health and safety in the workplace (Mayer & Beyrer, 2007). The objective of this TBM is to emphasise and educate on the significance of K3 in workplace activities. The manifestations and indicators of HIV/AIDS are Following the onset of an HIV virus infection, one should first disregard particular symptoms. Typically, a few weeks post-infection, the individual frequently experiences moderate ailments, such as influenza or diarrhoea. After a duration of 34 years, the patient exhibited no characteristic symptoms, referred to as an asymptomatic period; during this time, the patient perceived themselves as healthy and seemed healthy externally. Subsequently, in the fifth or sixth year, recurrent diarrhoea manifests, accompanied by a marked reduction in beer consumption, frequent oral canker sores, and lymphadenopathy, ultimately resulting in numerous infectious illnesses, malignancies, and potentially mortality (Collins Jr & Sapiano, 2016).

Following the presentation, we conducted a question-and-answer session with the project workers to discuss the fundamentals of HIV/AIDS prevention and control within the project setting. Facilitate focus group talks regarding HIV/AIDS prevention and control within the project context to assess the understanding of HIV/AIDS symptoms and the methods for their prevention and management. A questionnaire was given to assess the success rate of discussions and question-and-answer activities regarding HIV/AIDS socialisation, encompassing the diverse age groups and marital statuses of respondents.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The incidence of HIV/AIDS is rising annually, as the number of new cases surpasses the number of fatalities, indicating the efficacy of PDP (Supportive Care and Treatment) programs. Nonetheless, both promotive and preventive initiatives remain essential within the community

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to engage WPA (AIDS Care Citizens). The transmission of HIV/AIDS is intricately linked to knowledge and behaviour; therefore, it is essential to investigate these factors in order to optimise preventative interventions for at-risk populations. According to the 2018 Riskesdas data on HIV/AIDS awareness, merely 57.4% of individuals aged 15 years and older had heard of HIV/AIDS, while 56.7% of the population aged 15 years and above were aware of the disease. In 2018, 59.05% of the population sample in Central Java province reported awareness of HIV/AIDS. The questionnaire results indicated that among the respondents, there were 13 project workers aged 30-40 years and 17 individuals aged 40-50 years, predominantly male. The educational disparity among elementary school respondents was 2 individuals, junior high school respondents was 13 individuals, and high school respondents was 15 individuals. Static marriages reveal that 3 individuals are single, while 26 individuals are married.

The questionnaire distribution findings indicated that the project workers comprehended the knowledge of HIV/AIDS as elucidated in the Q&A discussion session. The questionnaire results revealed that 27 respondents attributed the cause of HIV/AIDS to the virus itself, while 28 respondents believed that AIDS was the cause of HIV. Twenty-seven individuals responded that HIV/AIDS compromises human immunity. The questionnaire results indicated that an average of 24 respondents were knowledgeable about the HIV/AIDS virus, 18 were aware of its transmission methods, 24 recognised the early symptoms of HIV/AIDS, and 30 understood the virus's prevention strategies. The questionnaire results indicate that 30 individuals are knowledgeable about the transmission and prevention of HIV/AIDS within the project context. The respondents indicated that 15 project workers obtained information on the HIV/AIDS virus from newspapers, 20 from periodicals, 29 from television, 18 from radio, and 16 from the internet. The respondents' answers indicate that project personnel are predominantly cognisant of the risk of obtaining HIV/AIDS. A total of 30 respondents indicated awareness of the risk of developing HIV/AIDS.

CONCLUSIONS

The findings from the community service activities conducted by the team indicated that the project workers comprehended the significance of preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS within the context of the Dam Development Project. The workers demonstrated awareness of the necessity for HIV/AIDS prevention and control in the project environment, as well as possessing knowledge regarding the efforts aimed at HIV/AIDS prevention and control in that setting.

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