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INVOLVEMENT OF HUSBANDS OF HIV POSITIVE WOMEN IN THE TREATMENT OF THEIR WIVES AT AN HIV CARE CENTRE IN COTONOU: IMPACT ON MEDICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS OF THE HIV POSITIVE WOMEN

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BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVE:

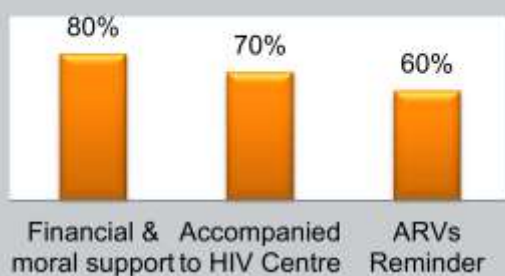
HIV+ women from developing countries are frightened of being stigmatised and divorced. They are therefore unable to share their HIV status with their husbands. They live with that stress where they hardly take ARVs and visits to health centres become irregular. Therefore, a project was instituted to help these women share their status with their husbands and to encourage their supports for an effective care. After 2 years execution, the present study was conducted in December 2015 to probe the perception of the beneficiaries, and to appreciate their level of satisfaction and analyse the obtained results.

METHODOLOGY

Questionnaires were administered to 81 HIV+ women and 76 husbands. 4 focus group discussions of 8 participants each were also conducted and data were analysed in SPSS 20

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Advantages obtained by HIV+ women from their husbands thanks to the project



Impact of the project in husbands of HIV+ women



Four women out of five had a child after the knowledge of their HIV status and 69% of such children are taken care of at the centre

Half of the husbands continued to have unprotected sexual intercourse after the discovery of their wife's status. 57.89% husbands are HIV+ and taken care of at the centre

CONCLUSION

The total implication of couples in the care of HIV+ women is very important for the prevention of mother to child transmission, for the maintenance of tranquillity and peace in couples, for the limitation of the propagation of the virus and for the survival of the HIV+ women and their children.