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Awareness of HIV/AIDS and STI's among visually impaired female sex workers (VIFSWs) in Eldoret Township, Kenya

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Background: In the recent past, it has been a notion that VIFSWs have a greater risk of acquiring HIV due to their physical challenge they face. However, according to a report from UNAIDS which says that women have a greater risk of becoming infected than men if they are unprotected. The aim of the study is to analyze the level of awareness about HIV/AIDS/STI's among VIFSWs from their Brothels in Eldoret Township, Kenya.

Methodology: A descriptive study was conducted where qualitative methods were used. In depth, interviews were conducted on 60 VIFSWs and out of those 60; a stratum of 6 was formed. The data was then put on codes and later interpreted.

Results: According to the results, it was found out that 99% of the respondents in the study had knowledge on HIV/AIDS and STI's. However, the majority of the respondents faced ill treatment by their male clients due to their physical challenge they face. Also they faced stigma and discrimination from members of Public, on availability of user friendly health care services was also another challenge. They also lacked testing and counseling services from government institutions.

Conclusion: According to data obtained from the field, it suggests that the level of awareness of HIV/AIDS/STI's is high among the VIFSWs. However, there is an urgent need to conduct regular counseling and testing since they have less knowledge on importance of counseling and testing and early use of PeP in case of an exposure or early use of anti-retroviral therapy (ART).

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Rational emotive behavior therapy effectiveness among persons with irrational beliefs experiencing substance use disorder

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The present study explored the effectiveness of the rational emotive behavior therapy in disputing the irrational beliefs persons with substance use disorder. It was hypothesized that there is likely a negative relationship between rational emotive behavior therapy exposures and the irrational beliefs in person with substance use disorder. Repeated measure research design was employed. Purposive sampling was used to draw a sample of 12 patients who had undergone treatment for substance use disorder from addiction ward. PIMH and Fountain House, Lahore (demographic information sheet, history take examination), and MSE were used to rule out others psychiatric illness. After the careful examination, diagnosis of the substance disorder's irrational beliefs was measured by shortened general attitude and belief scale. The new and personal invention of the study is that pictorial presentation of REBT techniques gives a better understanding and significant result. All the pictures were handmade and mind invention. The present study was able to find out the effectiveness of REBT in disputing irrational beliefs in substance use disorder. The finding of the study indicated a significant difference in irrational beliefs of persons with the substance use disorder before and after the treatment. Based on the finding, it can be concluded that present research provides justification for irrational beliefs in persons with the substance use disorder.

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