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## 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on **Emerging Infectious Diseases**

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## **Control and Prevention of HIV/AIDS, STDs & STIs**

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## Role of sex workers in the transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in Pakistan

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**Statement of the Problem:** Prostitution and homosexuality are unlawful in Pakistan and carry strict penalties. However, Pakistan has one of the highest numbers of money making sex workers by women, men and transgender. Sex workers are playing major role in spreading HIV in local community. Punjab is habitat to more than 80,000 HIV patients even at present approximately 133,529 individuals are tainted in the country reported by a private media channel. HIV and sexually transmitted infections in Pakistan are not unavoidable. This community is at highest risk by HIV through selling sex. Money making sex workers are prevalent in major cities of Pakistan and on truck routes. Prostitution is increasing day by day in Lahore, Karachi and major cities of Pakistan imparting role in spreading HIV/AIDS and STIs.

**Methods:** We account network mapping data collected among sex worker, through observation, inspection and interviews of under study groups in major cities across Pakistan. It is known to have huge numbers of sex workers with significant geographic heterogeneity in their distinctiveness in Pakistan.

**Findings:** The level of information about STI's is low among women selling sex in Lahore, Pakistan. The STI analysis found that there are numerous pushing factors of female's contribution into sex occupation, some are voluntarily and others are involuntarily. Financial burdens and the wish for more stuff assets have made girls and married females in Lahore come into and become spell bound in a network of selling sex. In sight of the results, women prostitutes have to face worse and stern cost in concern their healthiness like HIV/AIDS, scabies and other STIs.

**Conclusions:** HIV/AIDS is a challenge that goes beyond the health sector. Understanding the communal organization of sex workers and the influence of social-cultural and lawful factors in Pakistan and is essential for the plan of HIV/STIs prevention programmes.

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