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Perceptions of HIV positive patients on ARV treatment regarding care received in clinical facilities, Vhembe District Limpopo, South Africa

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Antiretroviral treatment has improved the quality of people who are HIV positive. The study addressed the experiences of HIV positive patients in the Vhembe District of Limpopo South Africa. The aim and purpose of the study was to identify, explore, and describe the experiences of HIV positive patients on antiretroviral treatment (ART). A qualitative research method was used where experiences of HIV positive patients were explored and described. A non-probability purposive sampling was used and population comprised of eighteen patients who were HIV positive and 18 years and above. Data was collected through an in depth interview using semi-structured interview. Open coding method was used for data analysis. One theme and five sub-themes emerged, namely; pill counting practices, environment at the ART, observation of safety measures, encourage by health care providers and negative practices. Basic infection control measures should be strengthen and practiced in the health facilities. Provisions of pill counting devices such as plastic boards and spatulas in all clinical facilities proving ART should be used.

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