

## Health Problems in Africa - HIV/AIDS –

STUDENT NAME

PRESENTATION DATE

### Introduction

Africa

- 54 countries, 1,2 billion people (16.64% of the total world population)

Problems

- Poverty, hunger, education, health, sanitation, infrastructure, politics, security, economy, population, environment ...etc

### Health Problems

What are Health Problems in Africa?

- HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Cholera, Ebola ...etc

What is HIV/AIDS?

- A disease in which there is a severe loss of the body's cellular immunity, greatly lowering the resistance to infection and tumors
- Spread primarily by unprotected sex, contaminated blood transfusions, hypodermic needles, and from mother to child during pregnancy, or breastfeeding

### HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa is the world's epicenter of HIV/AIDS.

- 60% of the people with HIV/AIDS
- 28.5 million people living with HIV/AIDS
- "AIDS belt" (eastern and southern Africa)

Consequences of HIV/AIDS

- Increase the risk of developing common infections
  - Shorten life expectancy, increase mortality
- Increase AIDS orphans
  - Dropout
- Economic difficulties
  - Loss of income of patient
  - Increase expenditures for medical expenses
  - Decrease labor supply
- Discrimination and stigma

### Why is HIV/AIDS Worse in Sub-Saharan Africa?

## 1. Socioeconomic determinants

- Education
  - Lack of education, especially sexual education leads unaware of importance of safe sex and prevention.
  - Education impacts on HIV/AIDS prevalence by delaying age at the onset of sexual activity, especially in regions where girls are sent into marriage as soon as they abandon schooling.
- Gender inequality
  - Women cannot always negotiate conditions in which sexual intercourse will take place, like contraceptives use.
  - Women engage in prostitution. HIV among prostitutes has the greatest impact on the region's epidemic overall.
- Governance
  - In a corrupted political environment, decision-makers can be not incited to invest enough in HIV/AIDS prevention activities.
    - Lack of national HIV/AIDS prevention programs

## 2. Sociocultural determinants

- Cultural practices
  - Men have two or more long-term sexual relationships at once. A person who has been recently infected with HIV will spread quickly to partners for a long time.
- Age at the onset of sexual activity
  - The younger girls begin sexual intercourse, the more they are exposed to tearing, since their partners are almost always older and their body is still immature.
  - Lack of sexual education to use contraceptives

### Specific Cases in Sub-Saharan Africa

#### Negative cases

- The case of sex workers in Kenya, Zimbabwe, and south Africa
  - There are evidences of physical and sexual abuse and harassment of sex workers who carry contraceptives.
    - Police actively confiscate or destroy sex workers' contraceptives.
    - Police were also using the threat of arrest on the grounds of contraceptives possession to extort and exploit sex workers.
- The case of girls and young women in Botswana
  - Girls and young women who engage in low-wage jobs or be forced into marriage are drawn into relationships with wealthy older men.
    - They cannot deny unsafe intercourses.

- They tend to be infected HIV because of those men since they are young.

#### Positive cases

- The case in Uganda
  - “Zero Grazing” “Love Carefully” program
    - the HIV rate had fallen by almost 2/3 in a decade
    - Warn about AIDS in the very African way

### HIV Prevention Programs and Improvement

#### Behavioral prevention

- Community-based activism
- Large-scale programs - sex education, contraceptive use, HIV testing

#### Biomedical prevention

- Provide contraceptives
- Reduce the cost of antiretroviral drugs
- Promote HIV testing

#### Structural prevention

- Increase girls’ access to secondary education
- Strengthen legislation and law enforcement to end intimate sexual violence
- Take care of AIDS orphan

### Conclusion

- Africa has many problems such as health problems.
- Sub-Saharan Africa is the epicenter of HIV/AIDS.
- Many factors which have background of social problems increase HIV infection.
- Some countries still have problems.
- Others improve conditions of HIV/AIDS through various prevention methods.

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