HIV vulnerability of indirect sex worker from garment industry: the study of female garment worker in urban Mumbai, India

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Over past few years, labour migration of female has been an increase in most developing countries. However, for a long time female migration had remained invisible in studies of migration. Along with this increase in feminisation of migration, world has also witnessed feminisation of HIV epidemic. Migrant women garment workers form a significant section of migrant women. Mumbai is one of the major migration destinations, which attracts young, and adolescent young for work opportunities. With amount of exploitation, these female migrants involved in sex work to earn extra income. Therefore, this study was conducted to examine the vulnerability of female migrant workers to HIV/AIDS. **Data and Methods:** Primary data collected for the present study. A sample of 10 female migrant garment workers were chosen in Mumbai partly by random and partly by snowball sampling. In-depth interviews were conduct using interview guideline with 10 respondents. In-depth interviews were analysed using Atlas-ti software. **Results:** Most women had no forms of education, many of them were illiterate who cannot read or write. HIV-related vulnerabilities of garment workers are closely connected to their working conditions. Women and key informants reported awareness that some women had sexual relationships with local men or engaged in sex work to Supplement their income. Factory restrictions limited women's ability to access health care services and health education programs, which increases the RTI/STI problem. **Conclusion:** The study confirms that these women are vulnerable group because they do not have proper knowledge, accessibility to health care which put them at greater health risk like HIV/AIDS. It is really a matter of concern as these women can easily be infected with HIV. Adequate measures need to be taken at various levels to address issue seriously among such vulnerable group to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

Impact of maternal depressive symptoms and infant temperament on early infant growth and motor development: results from a population based study in Bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

Background: Evidence linking maternal depressive symptoms with infant's growth and development in low-income countries is inadequate and conflicting. This study investigated the independent effect of maternal perinatal depressive symptoms on infant's growth and motor development in rural Bangladesh. **Methods:** A cohort of 720 pregnant women was followed from the third trimester of pregnancy to 6-8 months postpartum. For growth and developmental outcomes, 652 infants at 2-3 months and 6-8 months were assessed. Explanatory variables comprised maternal depressive symptoms, socioeconomic status, and infant's health and temperament. Outcome measures included infant's underweight, stunting and motor development. Multiple linear regression analyses identified predictors of infant growth and development. **Results:** Maternal postpartum depressive symptoms independently predicted infant's underweight and impaired motor development, and antepartum depressive symptoms predicted infant's stunting. Infant's unadaptable temperament was inversely associated with infant's weight-for-age and motor development, and fussy and unpredictable temperament with height-for-age and motor development. **Limitations:** Repeated measures design might threaten the internal validity of the results 8.3% of the participant does not participate in the measurements at different times. As the study was conducted in two sub-districts of rural Bangladesh, it does not represent the urban scenario and cannot be generalized even for other rural areas of the country. **Conclusion:** This study provides evidence that maternal ante- and postpartum depressive symptoms predict infant's growth and motor development in rural Bangladesh. It is recommended to integrate psychosocial components in maternal and child health interventions in order to counsel mothers with depressive symptoms.