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Review Article

# **Health Related Quality of Life in HIV Positive Individuals**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) patients require social assistance which has a substantial influence on Health Related Quality of Life (HRQOL). Physical, emotional and awareness aid are the three key building blocks of societal support system. It is critical to distinguish between these types of societal support because they are so interrelated yet their roles are so diverse and substitutable. For individuals suffering from AIDS/HIV it's difficult to do day to day chores, engage in simple to severe physical activity. They also usually lack the potency to indulge in any social life actively. In these individuals, lack of energy or fatigue has resulted in psychological and physical morbidity, along with poor OOL.

## INTRODUCTION

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is a member of the lentivirus subgroup of retroviruses, which have a lengthy incubation time. Clinically HIV infection is divided into three major stages: an early acute stage that begins 2-4 weeks after infection with symptoms similar to mononucleosis, lethargy, fever, sore throat, and a generalized lymph-adenopathy; a late acute stage that begins 2-4 weeks after infection with symptoms similar to mononucleosis, lethargy, fever, sore throat, and a generalized lymph-adenopathy [1-4]. HIV patients may have a wide range of symptoms. However, people suffering exclusively with HIV had an overall better standard of living. Those Patients with additional illnesses to HIV/AIDS may have a varied living standard. The second stage is the latent phase, which is characterized by the absence of symptoms. Third stage of immunodeficiency is when the person is vulnerable to opportunistic infections [5]. The phrase "health-related quality of life" points towards an individual's functional abilities as well as feelings of welfare regarding mental, social and physical aspects of his life [6].

For estimating the return on healthcare investment, recording the number of chronic diseases reported, recording the health differences over time, evaluating results for the treatment and calculating the cost of chronic disease it is important to analyze the health associated standard of living. The American psychologist John Flanagan's quality of life scale, created in 1970s is adapted for use in chronic illness groups [7]. Because of the illness's lengthy and severe nature, as well as the unknown influence of current treatments on morbidity, wellbeing living standards in individuals infected with HIV disease may be especially important: In spite of the fact that the duration related to therapeutic impact is unclear, and there are severe side effects commonly reported, the newly introduced antiretroviral treatments has shown promising results [8]. Since 1983, when scientists first discovered the AIDS virus, it has infected 78 million individuals and killed around 39 million. These estimates obscure the dynamic character of this developing pandemic in terms of time, geographic spread, size, viral variety, and mechanism of transmission. There is now no region of the planet that has not been affected by this outbreak. The United Nations and World Health Organization (WHO) have lounged a program on AIDS (UNAID) that provide annual revised HIV/AIDS surveillance figures on a global scale. In the developing world, AIDS and HIV

surveillance systems are less comprehensive and HIV trends are generally tracked through repeated cross-sectional HIV sero-prevalence system surveys among women attending antenatal clinics as proxies for the population of sexually active adults of childbearing age [9]. According to UNAIDS/WHO, at the end of 2006, 39.5 million were infected with HIV with majority (63 percent) living in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2005 alone, 41 million HIV-1 newly infected patients and 28 million deaths were reported caused by AIDS. In 2006, an average total 4.3 million individuals were infected with HIV, and an approximately 2.9 million died as a result of AIDS [10]. Southern Africa has the highest HIV seroprevalence rates among pregnant women in the world (20-50 percent). China declared its first AIDS-related case on June 6, 1983[11]. In 1986, the first case of HIV in India was discovered in Chennai, Tamil Nadu's southernmost state. NACO (National AIDS Control Organization) has reported that in adult HIV currency in India was 0.88 percent in 2005, equating to about 52 million persons infected with HIV, or one in every eight HIV infections globally [12]. Whenever under-diagnosis, under-recording, and postponements in treatment occur, it will result in increase of cases, currently there are 40 000 HIVinfected people. The WHO, on the other hand, projected that at the end of the year 1994, there were actually reporting HIV [13]. According to the Pakistan National AIDS Control Program, HIV was first identified in Pakistan in 1987, and the number of cases has grown since then (NACP). Pakistan is a South Asian developing country and like other developing countries it lacks in basic health related services causing lack of monitoring system needed to fight this disease

The majority of the data obtained is from point-occurrence studies of blood donors and a limited number of people those are at risk due to these activities [15]. Given the increased lifetime made available by modern HIV prevention and treatment approaches, quality of life (QOL) is recognized an important medical result indicator, and improving it is a critical goal. QOL or living standards can be expressed a feeling that involves traits like being happy and general contentment in life. WHO defines standards of living as a relationship between that person's insight on one's standing position in life and his goals, standards, expectations and concerns built on the basis of his cultural and religious values [16].

To buffer stress in non-HIV settings it is important for the society to accept in order for an individual to feel a sense of belonging and a space for growth and exceedance is extensively established. Researchers found that emotionally sustaining assistance was more sought and frequently used than other types of care. HIV-infected are leading normal, longer and healthier lives. Many HIV-positive individuals are now expected to live as much as non-HIV individuals around them [18]. Furthermore, tiredness and a lower than five hundred CD4 T-cell count are related to physical in capabilities and impairment [19]. In HIV positive people, illness development is characterized by declining productivity, greater difficulty with daily chores, and pain. With the introduction of combination ART, AIDS/HIV has now become potentially treatable condition. ART has the potential to increase survival, decrease the frequency of HIV-related opportunistic illnesses, as well as improve individual's standard of living [20, 21].

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