



South to South



Psychosocial Support and Counseling



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ICAP
International Center for AIDS
Care and Treatment Programs
MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Columbia University



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Learning objectives

- To identify ways to assess & support families with infected HIV children
- To understand the psychological needs and abilities of children
- To identify methods of assessing the psychological needs of children at different ages and developmental stages
- To identify methods of counseling children at different ages and developmental stages

Psychosocial Assessment & support

- What is Psychosocial Assessment?
- Which aspects are addressed during the assessment?
- What is Psychosocial Support?
- When Should Assessment be Performed?
- How Should Needs Be Assessed?

Counseling

- What is Counseling?
- What are the characteristics of an effective counselor?
- How can you address the needs arising in a counseling session?
- What do you need to “create” an informed and engaged patient?

Counseling children

- Why is communication with the child important?
- When Should you counsel children?
- What is the role of the child?
- What are the challenges?

Family focus

- What is the role of the family?

MDT

- How can the MDT meet the team of the child and family



Disclosure



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Learning objectives

- Understand the approach to paediatric disclosure
 - List ways to assess families and assist them to think about disclosure
 - Describe developmental and psychological issues that underlie disclosure
 - Identify ways to initiate and support pediatric disclosure – telling a child that they have HIV disease

Zaid's story

- 11yr old boy known to your clinic for a long time and on HAART. His mom complains that Zaid sometimes refuses to take his medicine. His teacher complains that he is not doing very well in school. Zaid often fights in the street. Mother Cynthia is a 29yr old single mother and unemployed, both she and Zaid receive a grant. Cynthia has not disclosed to anyone. His mother brought him regularly for his hospital appointments. She brings Zaid directly to TBH whenever he is not feeling well. Several attempts has been made to explain to her to take the child to the day hospital for minor ailments, but she feels that the nursing /medical staff is not attending properly to him. Cynthia lets Zaid stay home for minor ailments and complaints. Cynthia never gives the same address, she also attends different GP's when she feels unwell.

Zaid's story cont.

- Cynthia refuses all discussion with Zaid regarding his illness. Whenever disclosure is discussed, she is always in a hurry and requests another appointment. He himself is not asking any questions, but she told him that the medication that he needs to take is for TB.

In this scenario

- Analyze the study with specific focus on disclosure

The case of Thabo

- Thabo is a 6yr old HIV positive child. Abandoned on the streets of Khayalitsha at the age of 8 months. He was placed with Mrs Banda, a 50 year old widow. He is on HAART. After 4 months on ART's Mrs Banda died and her 32 year old daughter Maria started to take care of Thabo. Maria visited the social worker during that period complaining about not being able to look after Thabo as she has a 3 month old baby and is planning her wedding. Her boyfriend does not want Thabo to stay with them. Maria also mentioned that she overheard Thabo telling his playmates that he has AIDS and that they should not touch him. The teacher told Maria that children are teasing Thabo and will not touch him because he has HIV. Thabo sometimes refuse to take his medication. Finally he was placed in an institution.

Question

- Analyze the study with specific focus on disclosure

Lets talk about....

- What is disclosure?
- Why should we disclose to children?
- When should you disclose?
- Where should disclosure happen?
- What factors influence the decisions on disclosure to children?
- What should you tell a child?



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