



Domestic Violence Among Patients  
attending Nsambya Hospital HIV  
Chronic care clinic



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# Introduction



- Domestic violence refers to a wide range of sexually, emotionally and physically coercive acts used by one person in a relationship to exert control over the other.
- Partners may be married or not married but living together



# Introdn Cont'd



- Domestic Violence is classified according to type of act including physical violence, sexual violence and emotional or psychological violence
- Domestic violence and HIV/AIDS are closely related in terms of cause and consequence



# Background to DV



- Violence against women is a critical health, human rights and socio-economic problem across all countries of the world
- At least one in five of the world's female population has been physically or sexually abused at some time in their lives (WHO 1995)
- In Uganda, almost four in ten women have ever experienced some form of gender based sexual violence (UDHS 2006)



# Objectives



- Determine the magnitude of domestic violence among HIV positive patients
- Establish various forms of domestic violence prevalent among HIV patients
- Identify factors associated with domestic violence among HIV positive clients



# The Setting



- St. Raphael of St. Francis Hospital Nsamoya – Dept of Home Care
- Located in an urban setting but serving economically poor populations
- The Department is an HIV/AIDS chronic care and treatment facility providing medical, nursing and psycho-social services
- Started 20 yrs ago – close to 15,000pts cumulative
- Approx 8000 active clients in general care (non-ART) with over 60% women
- Active clients on ART approx 2100 (June 30, 2009)



# Methods (1)



- The study was cross-sectional and descriptive
- All consenting males and females aged 18 – 54 were included in the study
- Using the Kish-Leslie formula of sample estimation, a total of 178 females and 117 men were selected for the study
- Overall response rate was 98.3%



# Results (1)



- Sexual violence is more prominent among female patients than in men with over 36% of the women reporting
- Men were less likely to have experienced acts of sexual violence approx 3%
- Majority of women (75.4%) reported having a mature partner aged thirty five years and above



## Results (2)



- Among women psychological violence (56%), sexual violence (36%) and physical violence (35%)
- Among men psychological violence (49%), sexual violence (3%) and physical violence (14%)
- Age of the woman, rural-urban divide, level of education and history of extra-marital affairs were all significantly associated with DV ( $p < 0.05$ )



## Results (3)



- Older women 31 years and above were 1.7 times more likely to have experienced domestic violence than their younger counterparts
- There was no significant relationship between bride-price and prevalence of domestic violence



# Discussion & Conclusions



- Domestic Violence remains a key Public Health challenge among HIV positive patients
- Women are more affected by domestic violence especially sexual abuse
- The net contribution of HIV/AIDS infection towards domestic violence remains unknown



# Future Perspectives



- Provision of appropriate services to victims of Domestic Violence within the HIV /AIDS care continuum for NHC
- More studies should be conducted to determine the relationship between domestic violence and treatment outcomes in the context of HIV/AIDS



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