

## **Stigma and Practices by Nurses toward Patients with HIV/AIDS in Selected Hospitals of Shiraz**

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Background and objective:** Patients with HIV / AIDS( PLWA) were discriminated due to infection through unprotected sexual behaviors and shared injections. Nurses should respect the rights of these patients and they provide medical care to them. This study conducted to determine the status of stigma and and discriminatory practices of nurses deal PLWA in hospitals of Shiraz.

**Materials and methods:** In this cross-sectional study, we selected 356 nurses and 114 by random sampling from namazi hospital and shahid faghihi hospital. Data was gathered by a questionnaire. We used software of SPSS (14) and data analyzed by descriptive tests.

**Results:** 67. 2 percent of respondents believed that wife/husband of PLWA should be notified of the patient's status even without her/his consent. 73. 8 percent of respondents agreed that PLWA should be hospitalized in a separate ward. 30. 5 percent believed that they can refuse care for PLWA so they can protect themselves and their families. 78.5 believed that fear of becoming contaminated are most concerns about treating PLWA. 21.9 reported that have refused to care for a patient with HIV/AIDS.

**Conclusion:** bad status of stigma and discrimination nurses to patients with HIV / AIDS could be due to fear of infection and lack of equipments. It is recommended to providing of appropriate training, financial incentives and new for improving this status.

**Keywords:** AIDS, stigma, discrimination, practice, nurses, hospital