

Knowledge of antiretrovirals in preventing parent-to-child-transmission of HIV: a cross-sectional study among women living with HIV in Tamil Nadu, India

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Authors:

Saumya, Rastogi
Bimal, Charles
Asirvatham, E. Sam

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Description:

India is amongst the top 10 countries in the world currently with the highest burden of pregnant women living with HIV and nearly 80% of these women do not receive antiretroviral treatment drugs to prevent parent-to-child transmission. This was a descriptive, cross-sectional study in which women were interviewed in Tamil Nadu to estimate HIV-infected women's awareness of PTCT and knowledge of ARVs as a measure to prevent PTCT. The results of the study are that 18.8% of the women with HIV interviewed had not heard of PTCT and 40% did not know that ARVs could prevent PTCT. The study concludes that considering the risk of HIV transmission from HIV-infected women to their children, the knowledge level of PTCT among them is low, and thus, appropriate strategies to generate awareness among women with HIV need to be introduced to help them make informed decisions.

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