

HOME-BASED CAREGIVERS' KNOWLEDGE REGARDING ANTI-RETROVIRAL THERAPY IN NAMIBIA

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Abstract. Lack of practical knowledge among home-based caregivers (HBCs) on HIV/AIDS, anti-retroviral treatment (ART) and poor individual adherence to treatment are among the root causes of ineffective ART service delivery in Namibia. The purpose of the study was to investigate the knowledge of HBCs in Namibia regarding ART. The study was a descriptive, cross-sectional study in which 89 participants completed self-administered questionnaires to assess their knowledge regarding ART. Knowledge of HBCs on ART was above average in some aspects, there was still lack of knowledge on necessity of post-test counseling. Training organizations should put emphasis on the necessity of post-test counseling, consequence of poor adherence and type of facilities that issue ART.

Keywords: HIV/AIDS, anti-retroviral therapy, knowledge, home-based caregiver, Namibia

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