

HIV infection is a burning problem all over the world. In India the first HIV infected person was detected in Chennai in 1986. In next 14 years i.e. by 2000 AD. the estimated number reached 40 lakhs. Many demographers think that this could be half of the actual number, because large no. of infected persons are yet to be detected in the community.

If the infection spreads in this speed and it is not controlled without delay, then in another 14 years there will hardly be any person in India without HIV infection, because routes of entry of this infection are multiple.

The strategy for control should be "now or never - fight on war-footing".

There is neither protective vaccine nor effective treatment of HIV infection/AIDS. The only protective measure is awareness generation of the people regarding how it spreads and how the infection should be prevented.

Our grass-root level workers can play important role in awareness

Awareness generation in the beneficiary population in course of their routine family visits, parents' meetings etc. Incidentally, R.T.I and STI control is an important component of RCH programme.

JPP-VIII, CHDA, have arranged training of the HHWs and supervisors of JPP-VIII and CUDP-III and the training is continuing in batches.

I had a preliminary talk with the Authorities of State AIDS Prevention and Control Society, West Bengal, for arranging training for the HHWs and Supervisory Staff of JPP-VIII (Extn.) Project. They wanted a proposal for the said training from this office.

This office or the local bodies will have no financial liability in this regard. The training will be imparted in the cities where they are working, all expenditures will borne by the said Society. The local body will, however, arrange for rent-free accommodation, and transport for the training team (not exceeding 6 persons) for 2 to 3 days of training.

The Adviser (Health), JPP-VIII (Extn.) may like to see and if approved, we may write to the Society for arranging the said training.

Sd/-
14.8.2001.

Adviser
(Health)
JPP-VIII Extn.
Project