Global Health Issue Analysis

Name

Institution

Date

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**Part 1: Global Health Comparison Matrix**

**Global Issue: HIV/AIDS**

HIV/AIDS is one of the major causes of death and morbidity in the world. According to the previous World Health Organization report, chronic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and heart attack are the most deadly diseases in the world. Reports show that over 3 million people succumb annually to HIV/AIDS. Other reports have also shown that the disease infects over 100 million (Martens, Niemann & Kaasch, 2021). According to the Center for Disease Prevention and Control, HIV /AIDS is prominent in African and Asian countries. Another report issued by the United Nations in 2015 showed that more than 30 percent of the total world HIV infections constitute Africans, and 20 percent are Asians. Social determinants of health such as socioeconomic factors, education, population, employment, and income level are associated with HIV. This paper will analyze the national and federal policies that have been adopted for HIV/AIDS in Nigeria and the U.S.

**The U.S. national/federal health policies that have been adapted for HIV/AIDS**

Reports show that between 15and 18 percent of the United States AIDS cases occur in seniors over age 50. According to the WHO, between 2010 and 2020, HIV in adults increased more than twice as fast as in younger adults. According to CDC, adults who are unlikely to use condoms have a low immune system that is naturally weakening with age, and AIDS symptoms such as fatigue, dementia, skin rashes, and weight loss are similar to symptoms that can accompany old age. The U.S records less than 20,000 deaths annually from HIV infections (Remien et al., 2019). This is a major decline compared to the hundreds of thousand deaths that were recorded in the 2000s. The policies that have been put in place are Medicare, Obamacare, long-term care, telemedicine, and baby boomers.

**Medicaid and Obamacare**

Medicaid programs provide physical, psychological support, and physiological sup[port to HIV patients. Medicaid program targets the vulnerable in the community. It offers financial, medical, and mental support to eligible citizens. Medicaid provides medical insurance cover to patients with acute conditions such as HIV (Remien et al., 2019). Since the program was initiated, more than 30,000 HIV patients have been enrolled in the program, and this has reduced the death and morbidity rate from HIV infections from 30 percent to 12 percent.

**Long –term, care and Baby boomers**

In the U.S, the aging population forms the most infected population by HIV/IDS. Through long-term care programs and baby boomers, the population of aging has increased significantly. These programs have reduced the death and mortality rate among the elderly, and it has also reduced infection rates in the country. Long-term and baby boomers are programs that provide support to an aging population with acute conditions. According to the United Nations report, the population of the aging population has grown significantly over the past decade due to the enrollment of HIV patients in the program. The program allows nurses and medical health professionals to care for the aging population and enhance their health conditions.

**The Nigeria health policies that have been adopted for HIV/AIDS**

Nigeria is the leading African country with cases of HIV infection. According to the WHO report, more than 200,000 people in Nigeria succumb to the disease annually. Nigeria is one of the highly populated countries in Africa. The current population of Nigeria is 200 million. The unemployment rate in Nigeria is 30 percent. Also, reports have shown that Nigeria records more deaths from HIV infection due to extreme cases of poverty in the area. The U.N reported that over 50 percent of the Nigerian population lives below one dollar a day (Verani et al., 2021). According to a CDC report, poverty has subjected many teenagers to engage in commercial sex, which has significantly increased HIV infections. Lack of enough health facilities and high medical cost has discouraged many people from seeking healthcare services leading to more deaths and morbidities.

**Policy on HIV testing and treatment**

In 2005, the government f Nigeria established a wide network of voluntary and confidential counseling and testing services to provide access to affordable and high-quality testing and counseling (Verani et al., 2021). Since this policy was established, over 3 million people have been tested. This program has reduced HIV infections in Nigeria significantly. Despite this program being available, the number of HIV cases is still increasing.

In conclusion, this paper has identified HIV/AIDS as a global health issue. HIV/AIDS is one of the leading causes of death globally. HIV is an infectious disease, and it has no cure. This paper has compared the rate of infection of HIV/AIDS in Nigeria and the U.S, including the policies in place to reduce infections and deaths and social determinants of health associated with HIV. This paper has found that HIV/AIDS infections have reduced significantly over the past decade due to many government policies to reduce the infections. HIV infections are increasing due to challenges of poverty, unemployment, and high population.

**Part 2: A Plan for Social Change**

HIV/AIDS has adverse effects in our communities. It claims many lives, thereby leaving children as orphans, it is characterized by high medical costs, and it affects the family emotionally and mentally. As a nurse, my role in the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS is to create awareness of the risks associated with the disease by providing education to a vulnerable population. Nurses play a major role in the treatment of HIV patients. By creating awareness, nurses can impact the community because they will reach out to the families at risk of infections and teenagers. Through seminars, workshops, and conferences, nurses can educate the community about the benefits of using a condom to prevent HIV (Remien et al., 2021). Sharing the data on the effects of the disease globally can affect my role as a nurse leader by changing my perspective on how I handle, treat, and even view HIV patients. It will make me have a positive attitude towards HIV patients and treat them with more care and respect.

The knowledge of the global perspective of the disease is important because it equips me with the data on my country's efforts to prevent HIV infections. For example, I have learned that many cases of infections in the U.S are a result of not using condoms amongst the aging population. This knowledge will help me create awareness of the importance of using a condom as a way to prevent HIV infections in the country.

**References**

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