

Healthcare within family and HIV/AIDS in Halong city

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Objectives: Examine the influence of HIV/AIDS on family role regarding healthcare

Method: Our case-study survey performed in November 2006 includes 181 HIV positive people identified through HIV/AIDS committee, associations, health infrastructures and a snow-ball method. They belong to 163 case-study households which been surveyed with 163 case-control HIV « non infected » households. In each of the 326 households every member aged 15 to 60 have been surveyed using 644 individual questionnaires. This was complemented with a qualitative investigation.

Results: In a context where treatments are scarce, family remains a major recourse for HIV positive people, especially parents. More broadly, HIV/AIDS is associated with a weakening of spouses' solidarity and a greater mobilisation of the extended family with regards to healthcare. The participation of HIV/AIDS support groups is significant. Qualitative results provide us with in-depth information regarding the limits and conditions of participation to this new form of solidarity.

Conclusion: While placing the family at the centre of recourses for healthcare, HIV/AIDS emphasizes the role new institutional actors thus influencing the whole healthcare network and changing solidarity within the family.