

4<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Global Summit & Expo on

# Healthcare

July 18-20, 2016 Brisbane, Australia

## Professional nurses views regarding stigma and discrimination in the care of HIV and AIDS patients in rural hospitals of the Limpopo province

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The aim of the study was to determine the views of professional nurses on the manifestations of HIV and AIDS stigma and discrimination and their influence on the quality of care rendered to people living with HIV and AIDS in three rural hospitals of Limpopo province, South Africa. The study was qualitative, exploratory, descriptive and contextual in nature. The population included all professional nurses registered with the South African Nursing Council who were working with confirmed HIV-positive patients in those three hospitals and had received specialized training in Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT), Antiretroviral (ARV), Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and couple counseling. A purposive sampling method was used to select both the wards and participants, based on set criteria. A total of 9 wards (6 adult medical and 3 maternity) and 37 participants were selected. Group discussions, semi-structured and key informant interviews were conducted. Data were analyzed using a combination of data heir wards and regarded these as bad and improper care of HIV-positive patients. Behavior included leaving care analysis guidelines from different sources. Results revealed that professional nurses were aware of the existence of HIV and AIDS stigma and discrimination of HIV patients to junior members of staff with limited skills and knowledge of HIV and AIDS; showing HIV-positive patients that their disease was dangerous and contagious; judgmental behavior towards and stereotyping of HIV-positive patients; and regarding patients with HIV and AIDS as uncooperative and problematic in the wards.

### Biography

Bumani S Manganye is a Lecturer in the Department of Public Health of University of Venda. He has 10 years of experience as an Operational Manager (Nursing) of the PHC facility in Vhembe District. He completed his MPH in 2010 and currently doing PhD at the University of Venda.

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