ABSTRACT

In the present study, an attempt was made to assess the psychosocial factors in anti retroviral drug compliance for rural women afflicted with HIV/AIDS. The objectives of this study were: To study the extent of knowledge and opinion regarding HIV/AIDS among rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy in India, to study family environment and levels of marital adjustment among rural women, to study the influence of selected secondary variables on knowledge, opinion, family environment and marital adjustment of the respondents and finally to suggest proper measures to improve psycho-social factors among rural women identified with HIV/AIDS.

The hypotheses of the present study were, Knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS is low among rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy, Opinion regarding HIV/AIDS is unfavorable, the family environment of rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy is not encouraging. The marital adjustment of the rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy is low. Secondary variables (age, education, family type, occupation, income, route of transmission, clinical stage and treatment modalities) significantly influence knowledge and opinion, family environment and marital adjustment of rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing ART.

308 women from rural background infected with human immune deficiency virus, certified through proper laboratory investigations and also enrolling in ART center for treatment purpose and on ART treatment and the clinical stages I, II, III, and IV were selected for the present study. They were administered HIV/AIDS Knowledge and opinion, marital adjustment (Singh, 1987) and Family Environment Scale (Moos & Moos, 1986). The tests were administered in two phases. Statistical methods like Descriptive statistics, Independent samples’t’ test, one way ANOVA, and Tuckey’s post hoc tests were employed for the data collected. Results revealed that Knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS is low among rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy was moderate. Opinion regarding HIV/AIDS was moderately favorable among rural women identified with HIV/AIDS. The family environment of rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and
undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy was not very encouraging. The marital adjustment of the rural women identified with HIV/AIDS and undergoing Anti Retro Viral drug therapy was very unsatisfactory. Secondary variables had some influence over family environment and marital adjustment. Further, various modalities of psycho-social interventions to deal effectively with rural women afflicted with HIV/AIDS have been discussed.