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3

91462



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NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
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SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

Level 3 Health, 2015

91462 Analyse an international health issue

9.30 a.m. Monday 16 November 2015
Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse an international health issue.	Analyse, in depth, an international health issue.	Analyse, perceptively, an international health issue.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should attempt ALL parts of the question in this booklet.

Pull out Resource Sheet 91462R from the centre of this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

High
Excellence

TOTAL

8

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

INSTRUCTIONS

Read **Resource Sheet 91462R** before answering the question in this booklet.

Support your answers with **specific and relevant evidence**, such as examples, quotations, and/or data from the resource sheet, and from other credible and current sources (from 2010 and after).

An international health issue is one currently affecting the well-being of significant numbers of people in a country (or countries) other than, or as well as, New Zealand, and which is a matter of public concern.

Select ONE of the two international health topics in the table below, and tick the box alongside.

International Health Topics	Tick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ONE
Disease in the Pacific or Asia/Pacific region	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Globalisation and risks to health in relation to nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>

Identify a **significant health issue of international concern**, within your selected topic, that you will use to answer ALL parts of the question in this booklet.

~~Human Immunodeficiency Virus~~
HIV/AIDS ^{In Asia and the Pacific} (Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome) is a significant health issue of international concern. However, the physical HIV/AIDS is no longer the most detrimental aspect of the health issue, it is now the care and transmission of HIV/AIDS, as stigma and discrimination are hindering progress in the treatment of people living with HIV. 11

Stigma definition: Stigma marks people as different and disgraced. It denies an individual's dignity, respect, and right to fully participate in their community.
(UNAIDS ^{HIV} stigma index, 2011)

QUESTION

- (a) Explain why your named health issue is of international concern.

An international health issue currently affects the well-being of significant numbers of people in a geographic location, other than or including New Zealand, and which is a matter of public concern. 35 million people worldwide have HIV/AIDS, and 5 million of those people live in Asia and the Pacific (UNAIDS regional fact sheet 2012). This is the second highest population of people living with HIV/AIDS in the world (UNAIDS report 2013). Many strategies have been implemented in order to reduce this number, with some success, but progress is now hindered due to stigma and discrimination. Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations states that "Stigma is the chief reason why the AIDS epidemic continues to devastate societies around the world." Although my focus is on Asia and the Pacific, no doubt stigma and discrimination are apparent in all geographic locations affected by HIV/AIDS, and the way in which the Asia and Pacific region works to eliminate stigma and decrease the number of people living with HIV/AIDS will influence the smaller populations around the world.

- (b) Identify a significant and relevant determinant of health that is influencing your named health issue.

Determinant (1): Cultural determinant

Explain the short-term AND long-term health implications of this determinant for the **well-being** of people and society.

M/E, Sp, So, P

Support your answer with specific and relevant evidence.

● ● ●
a/s or
R

There ^{are} ~~only~~ negative implications on the well-being of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) ^{due to} and the stigma and discrimination they face. PLHIV face both internalised and externalised stigma. Internalised stigma affects an individual's mental/emotional, spiritual and social well-being. For example, during a survey of PLHIV in Asia and the Pacific, conducted by UNAIDS, 61% of respondents reported feeling ashamed because of their HIV status, and 23% reported having felt suicidal because they were living with HIV/AIDS, (UNAIDS HIV stigma index 2011). Externalised stigma affects an individual's physical, and mental and emotional well-being. As well as the physical disease of HIV/AIDS (HIV weakens the immune system and without ART (antiretroviral treatment), the body easily develops cancers, tuberculosis, and other serious illness (Health.govt.nz 2015)), respondents of the survey reported incidents of assault in all countries in the Asia/Pacific region. (UNAIDS HIV stigma index 2011). At an interpersonal level, a ^(6-27%) significant proportion of respondents in all countries reported exclusion from family, religious, and community activities due to their HIV status (HIV stigma index, UNAIDS, 2011). As a result

(c) Explain how the determinant of health in (b) contributes to your named health issue.

Support your answer with specific and relevant evidence.

Culture perpetuates the stigma. The attitudes and values of people in the Asia/Pacific region surrounding HIV/AIDS are negative, and beliefs around the disease often false. Lack of education about the realities of HIV/AIDS creates a society where people believe that 'people with HIV are immoral (UNAIDS HIV stigma index 2011)' and 'people with HIV/AIDS should be sent to prison (UNAIDS report 2013).' Religion also plays a significant role in the attitudes surrounding HIV/AIDS, as many religions condemn behaviour such as sex work and homosexuality, commonly practised by many who have contracted HIV; but not all. The lack of understanding, and misconceptions surrounding PLHIV in their society creates an environment of denial. HIV positive individuals do not wish to even get tested, let alone receive treatment out of fear of discrimination, loss of reputation, and ostracization. //

"Stigma is the single most barrier to public action (Banki-moon)," epitomises how the culture surrounding HIV/AIDS in the Asia/Pacific region, and prevents further progress in the ~~etc~~ decrease of PLHIV. //

- (d) Identify another significant and relevant determinant of health that is influencing your named health issue.

Determinant (2): Political determinant

Explain the short-term AND long-term health implications of this determinant for the **well-being** of people and society.

Laws + Policies

Support your answer with specific and relevant evidence.

For Finding
implications
Laws, Policies

The political determinant looks at laws and policies in Asia and the Pacific. As with the cultural determinant, there are only negative short and long-term ^{personal} implications for PLHIV due to stigma and discrimination. The laws and policies activate barriers to well-being and stigmatization, as they target high risk groups, and don't discourage discrimination. As stated previously, respondents in all countries in the region reported instances of assault to PLHIV (HIV stigma index UNAIDS 2011). Due to the specific laws and policies put in place, the holistic wellbeing of PLHIV is vulnerable and negatively affected. The interpersonal relationships of PLHIV are also negatively affected from a political stance. When the communities of PLHIV exclude them, poverty, housing, and employment all become a problem. This is an issue regarding both the well-being of people and society. At a societal level, insufficient funding is stunting the progress of initiatives which treat PLHIV and use health promotion to educate create awareness.

- (e) Explain how the determinant of health in (d) contributes to your named health issue.

Support your answer with specific and relevant evidence.

Punitive laws exist in all 38 countries in Asia and the Pacific. These laws target groups which have a high risk of contracting and transmitting HIV through genital fluids or blood transfer. These groups are: Men who have sex with men, sex workers, transgender people, and people who inject drugs. Out of 38 countries: 37 criminalize aspects of sex work, 18 criminalize homosexual behaviour, 11 incarcerate drug users, and 11 place travel entry and residence restrictions on PLHIV. (HIV stigma index UNAIDS 2011). These punitive laws mean people who associate with these 'high risk' groups are not getting tested for HIV and receiving the treatment they need out of fear of legal prosecution. These punitive laws also deny the human rights of PLHIV. For example, 'in Cambodia, under 18's are denied HIV-testing without parental consent (AVERT)'. The UNAIDS report of 2013 states: 'Despite some progress and legislative change in some countries, all countries in the region have laws, policies and practices that drive stigma and discrimination, and hamper access to HIV services.'

- (f) Recommend TWO strategies to address the determinants of health named in (b) and (d).

Explain how EACH strategy will enhance the well-being of, and bring about more equitable outcomes for, those directly and indirectly affected by your named health issue.

Support your answer with specific and relevant evidence.

Cultural strategies must aim to confront and challenge the attitudes and beliefs surrounding HIV/AIDS with the Asia/Pacific region. The most effective way to achieve this is through education about the realities of HIV/AIDS.

'The reason HIV/AIDS is a global health problem is thanks to ignorance and prejudice (Foster 2014)', realises that stigma has created a global issue of HIV/AIDS, not only in the Asia/Pacific region. Following the collective action model for most effective strategies, community-led and initiated programmes dedicated to educate society about HIV transmission and prevention, and to support PLMIV, would be my recommended strategy to address the influence of the cultural determinant. This also corresponds to the country report recommendations presented by the UNAIDS HIV stigma index, written by people living with HIV/AIDS in the Asia/Pacific region: 'Increase public + community-led programmes about HIV prevention (#7)'. This strategy would also include not only the support between PLMIV, but the transformation of a passive and fearful community of people, to agents of change. Their voice should be

behind every new positive action. This is a principle highlighted by the World Health Organisation (WHO), called G.I.P.A (Greater involvement of people affected by HIV). This education, empowering and involving all members of society will determine that hostility decreases within the Asia/Pacific region surrounding PLHIV, and these people will now feel safer to receive the testing and treatment they need. ^{It decrease numbers of PLHIV.} It will also create awareness, eliminating ignorance around the transmission of HIV. In the words of Aung San Suu Kyi: 'We need an Asia/Pacific community of compassion to end discrimination'.

To address the political determinant, a strategy must be put in place that removes current punitive laws in the Asia/Pacific region and puts in place laws that have the 'high risk' groups in consideration. The UNAIDS country report recommendations #7 seeks to 'improve policy and legal responses to HIV related stigma and discrimination' (UNAIDS HIV stigma index 2011). 'India and Thailand have already put in place programmes that ensure law enforcement does not act as an ~~bar~~ obstacle to HIV treatment and prevention' (UNAIDS regional fact sheet 2012). Programmes such as the above increase the efficiency of this strategy, as laws to protect PLHIV from

Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

QUESTION
NUMBER

- b) of this exclusion, PLHIV are more susceptible to poverty, as families in the Asia/Pacific region often share food and housing in order to survive. '75% of respondents in Bangladesh also reported refusal to marry because of their HIV status' (UNAIDS stigma index, 2011). 'Marriage is a significant aspect of culture within these regions (UNAIDS 2013)'. At a societal level, stigma often creates hostile environments so PLHIV feel hesitant to receive HIV testing and treatment, 'Only half of those eligible for treatment are accessing it' (UNAIDS 2013). Therefore unknown status leads to ignorant transmission, creating a greater problem of HIV/AIDS within a society, and endangering others' wellbeing. There is one positive implication. PLHIV relate to each other and form support groups within their community, enabling a renewal of self-worth and confidence //
- d) surrounding HIV transmission and prevention. 'Resource needs are greater than resources available' ^{we are} U.S \$3.2 billion short of 2015 funding target (UNAIDS HIV stigma index 2011). The spread of HIV/AIDS due to stigma and discrimination also creates AIDS orphans, which ~~are an extra~~ require extra funding.

from the government and society. 'As of 2013, 2.5 million children in Asia and the Pacific had lost one or both parents to AIDS. (UNICEF)'

- f) discrimination encourages PLHIV to voluntarily receive testing and treatment that they need. Out of the 189 countries that signed the Declaration of Commitment to HIV/AIDS in 2001 8 of these countries have implemented omnibus laws to protect PLHIV against discrimination. For this strategy to be most effective, laws should be implemented at a national governmental level to ^{easily} achieve social justice and create an equitable outcome in all Asia/Pacific countries. These laws should also include recommended aspects of the WHO: Bangkok charter (2000) which encourages that for a collective action strategy, schools should teach respect and understanding, religious leaders should preach tolerance, and media should condemn prejudice. Removing the current punitive laws and replacing them with national level, equitable laws that ~~that~~ take PLHIV into consideration, allowing them to be free of discrimination will ^{and the elimination of stigma,} successfully increase the number of PLHIV being treated, and positively decrease the effect of HIV/AIDS as an epidemic in Asia and the Pacific. //

