PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS WITH DEPRESSION AMONG HIV/AIDS PATIENTS IN CHIANGMAI PROVINCE

CHAIYUN TUNPALEE 5337034 PHPH/M

M.Sc.(PUBLIC HEALTH) PROGRAM IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

THESIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: SUKHONTHA SIRI, Ph.D. (TROPICAL MEDICINE), MATHUROS TIPAYAMONGKHOLGUL, Ph.D. (EPIDEMIOLOGY), CHOKCHAI MUNSAWAENGSUB , M.D., Dip THAI BOARD OF PEDIATRICS.

ABSTRACT

This cross-sectional study was conducted to determine the prevalence of depression and associated factors among HIV/AIDS patients in Chiangmai Province, Thailand. This study included 415 HIV/AIDS patients attending HIV/AIDS care service provided by 3 hospitals, including Mae Ai Hospital, Mae Tang Hospital and Sanpatong Hospital, from August to October in 2012. Data were obtained from four questionnaires, which consisted of personal health questionnaire 9 (PHQ-9), social support, family relationships and suicidal ideation (8Q).

The study revealed that the prevalence of depression among HIV/AIDS patients was 8.2%. Gender-specific prevalence values were 9.2% for female and 6.9% for male. Multivariable logistic regression analysis revealed four factors significantly associated with depression, including being unemployed, having a family history of depression, insufficient family income, and low social support at with p < 0.05.

The results of this study suggest screening for depression being implemented for HIV/AIDS patients. For those determined to have depression or suicide ideation, they should be referred to physicians for further definitive diagnosis and appropriate care. Long-term monitoring and periodic screening for depression such as every 3 months, 6 months, or routinely should be provided for the patients utilizing the HIV/AIDS care service. In addition, a program promoting social support from family members, acquaintances, and health professionals should be initiated to enable holistic care, which alleviates depression.

KEY WORDS: DEPRESSION/ PREVALENCE /HIV/AIDS PATIENTS

101 pages