# Yetmen site-specific topic: HIV/AIDS

*Female research officer only*

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## People with Aids

There are about five people who are suspected to have AIDS and this is by considering their physical status and their history of sexual relationship. Those who have concubines in urban Yetmen or other towns are suspected to have HIV even it might be some other disease. The people need medicine and food and they get that all.

## Extent of the problem of AIDS orphans

There are some known AIDS orphans and most of them grow up with their grandmothers and get income from their parents’ land. There is no pronounced number of AIDS orphans in rural Yetmen.

## HIV infected

It is difficult to know the number of people infected with HIV/AIDS according to the women respondents. The reason given for this was because such things are kept secret. Currently there are about five people which are suspected to have HIV. They said the number will be more because these days since they take anti retro-viral drugs they look healthy. This makes things difficult to know who has HIV who does not have. Their status does not affect their behaviour.

## Access to retro-virals drugs

People who have HIV/AIDS get retro –viral drugs from Bichena and Debre Markos. They are also given money.

## Community awareness of how the virus is transmitted

There is good awareness in the community on how HIV is transmitted. The community get information on the radio, meetings, from their children who go to school and information from other people outside the community.

## Changes in sexual behaviour

The change in the sexual behaviour of the community as a result of knowledge on how HIV transmits is good but still the are people who still do not give attention to that and have not brought behavioural change.

## Condom use

There is easy access to condoms but people in the rural Yetmen does not want to use them. They do not want to be seen taking condoms. Married couples do not think that they need to use condoms.

## Interventions to prevent the spread of the virus

There are teachings on radio. Children learn a lot of things at their school on HIV/AIDS and they transfer them to their parents and other persons in their family. Health extension workers also teach about HIV.

## Effectiveness of interventions to prevent spread

The whole lessons makes people to prevent the disease and the teachings not to share blade and sharp tools are very active on day to day activities. The lessons are very effective and wise people are using them.

## interventions to treat people infected by the virus

They are given anti -retroviral drugs and money to be used for food.

## Effectiveness of interventions to treat infected people

The medicine given to people living with HIV is effective because a person with HIV does not die soon like in the past. The money given also helps them for different uses.