

Abstract

The present study investigated the correlates of stigmatized attitude towards People who are living with HIV (PLHIV) in Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) community. Knowledge level, irrational fear, perceived controllability, acquaintance and stigma towards HIV-infected friends and lovers were studied and measured. Since the previous studies investigating the role of the above variables were controversial and the field was not in MSM community but public or even more specific, the health care workers, the present study is worth to carry out. 90 Hong Kong males participated in the study. Results showed that knowledge level and irrational fear did not correlate significantly with stigma towards HIV-infected friends and lovers. Perceived controllability did correlate significantly with stigma towards HIV-infected friends but not lovers. Only acquaintanceship did correlate significantly with both. The correlation coefficients of stigma towards HIV-infected lovers were found higher than that of stigma towards HIV-infected friends which implied the specialty of love would affect the role of the correlates predicting the stigma in MSM community.