



Demographic Factors, Stigma and Psychological Dysfunctions among People Living with HIV/AIDS: A Path Analysis

Mantwa W. Modiba¹, Matthew O. Olasupo^{1,2} and Erhabor S. Idemudia¹

*¹School of Research and Postgraduate Studies, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences,
North-West University (Mafikeng Campus), South Africa*

²Department of Psychology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

**E-mail: gbenga.olasupo@yahoo.com*

KEYWORDS Age. Anxiety. Depression. Duration of Diagnosis. Somatic Complaints. Stigma

ABSTRACT This study investigated the association between age and duration of diagnosis with psychological dysfunctions, and HIV/AIDS stigma among PLWHA in Limpopo Province of South Africa. Cross-sectional design with purposive sampling method was used to select study participants (n = 300, mean age = 31, standard deviation = 8.2, female = 57.1%). HIV/AIDS stigma scale was used to determine stigma while GHQ-28 was used to determine psychological dysfunctions. Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) and the Pearson Moment Correlation Coefficient were used to analyse data. Results indicated that age has a negative but significant predictive effect on enacted HIV/AIDS stigma ($\beta = -.126, p < .05$). Enacted HIV/AIDS stigma had a significant predictive effect on psychological dysfunctions ($\beta = .198, p < .01$). Study findings demonstrate that enacted HIV/AIDS stigma decreases with increased age, psychological dysfunctions increased with increase in age.