



PLUS

Case studies October 2008

Kolhapur case study

Suresh Kaingade [changed name] worked for an industrial company. He lived with his family in Kodoli Panhala, Kolhapur. His spouse's name is Sunita and he has two sons named Rohit & Rahul. Suresh had some health problems, so his brother sought advice from various doctors and specialists. They discovered he and Sunita were HIV positive. At that time all the family knew about Suresh and Sunita's status. After 2-3 months Suresh was expired, Sunita was very stressed and not eating properly. Sunita had good support from both families from her mother, father and from her mother-in-law, brother-in-law etc. After some time Sunita had a weakness problem. So her brother-in-law Somesh came to the Network of Kolhapur People with HIV (NKP+) office, referred by the ART centre at the Civil Hospital, Sangli.

On his first visit, Sunita's brother-in-law Somesh was not ready to disclose the name of the patient. Then the peer counsellor gave an assurance about confidentiality. After two weeks Somesh came to the office with Sunita and her son Rahul. She was very uncomfortable because she didn't know about our office working for HIV positive people. We told her that most of our office staff are HIV positive, and all of them worked very confidentially. Then Sunita told us her past history and about Rahul's positive status.

The second time she came from Sangli Civil Hospital because her antiretroviral (ART) procedure was finished there and a new ART centre started in the CPR Hospital Kolhapur. But she didn't know exactly where to go to get ART medicines in CPR Hospital. This time her CD4 count is only 136 & Rahul's is 447. The next day she got the medicines and came to the office. Our peer counsellor gave her information about how to take ART and what are the side effects. She faced some side effects for one month.

Now she is working as a Peer Treatment Educator (PTE) for the ACT project. We gave her PTE training in January 2008. After one week back she found one client and sends them to the DLN. Now she is living with her whole family happily, and every month she takes ART medicine and visits the office on her own.

OBSERVATION

- Client didn't have knowledge of HIV Treatment.
- She is very shy and always taking support from a family member when she leaving home for any purpose.
- Her financial condition is good.
- Because of information given by NKP+, Sunita has good adherence about ART treatment and is managing the side effects.
- She has accepted her HIV status.
- She has developed the confidence to go in the field and give information about HIV and ART medicine to one person or group. She is also working as a field worker in the T.B/HIV correlation project.
- She regularly attends support group meetings, when we are taking them in the office or near her Taluka place.