

## ***Home-based Care: A Need Assessment of People Living With HIV Infection in Bandung, Indonesia***

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*The increasing number of people living with HIV infection (PLWH) in Indonesia has led to an increased demand for care. Health care facilities are overburdened. Home-based care (HBC) is a valuable strategy to complement existing health care services and to extend the continuum of care for PLWH and their families. This qualitative study explored the care needs of PLWH that might provide baseline data for developing HBC in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia. Data were collected from 12 key and 25 general participants through observations, interviews, and focus group discussions. Findings indicate that HBC is urgently needed for PLWH, particularly for those who need palliative care and those who encounter major barriers to using available health care services. It is recommended that health care providers and policy makers strengthen the role of the family in taking care of PLWH through trainings and knowledge dissemination.*

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**H**IV remains a major public health problem in many countries. Indonesia is a developing country that faces the problem of an increasing number of people living with HIV (PLWH) infection since the first case was identified in 1987. Recently, the country has been noted as having the fastest growing HIV epidemic in Asia (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS,

2008). The estimated number of PLWH in Indonesia was 333,200 by the end of year 2009, and if prevention programs do not work effectively, it is predicted there might be 541,700 infected individuals by the end of year 2014 (National AIDS Commission, 2009). Injecting drug users are the largest subgroup of these individuals at 52.4%, followed by transgender people (*waria*) 24.4%, commercial sex workers 15%, and homosexuals 5.2% (Ministry of Health, 2009b).

HIV prevalence rates among provinces and cities vary widely. The Indonesian government has paid attention to some 100 cities, as cities in general have a relatively large number of HIV-infected people. Among the cities in Indonesia, Bandung has the highest reported number of PLWH, documenting a maximum of 1,948 cumulative cases by March 2009 (Ministry of Health, 2009a). The increasing number of PLWH has led to an increased demand for care for this group. It is estimated that 27% of public

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