

# International Conference on Women's Health, Gynecology & Obstetrics

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## Experiences of fear by pregnant women living with HIV/AIDS in Vhembe district Limpopo province of South Africa

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**Background:** Pregnant women living with HIV/AIDS experience fear in related to their deteriorating health and own death. Due to stigma attached to HIV/AIDS pregnant women often go through sickness until at its advanced stage before seeking medical attention thus putting their lives and those of their unborn babies at risk of death.

**Purpose:** The study seeks to explore and describe experiences of pregnant women who are living with HIV/AIDS regarding fear at the Vhembe District of Limpopo Province.

**Method:** The study was qualitative, explorative, descriptive, phenomenological, and contextual in nature. A purposive sampling method was used. Data were collected through in-depth individual interviews, guided by unstructured questions. Tesch's eight steps of qualitative data analysis were used. Measures to ensure trustworthiness and ethical issues were observed.

**Results:** The results of the study revealed that pregnant women who are living with HIV/AIDS were experiencing fear related to being pregnant and living with HIV/AIDS.

**Implications:** Recommendations in relation to the experiences of pregnant women living with HIV/AIDS, nursing practice, society, policymakers and research were thus made.

### Biography

F Constance Malindi has completed her Magister Curationis (MCUR) from the University of Venda, South Africa in December 2012. She is a clinical nurse practitioner at the local Community Health Centre and a PhD student at the University of Venda in South Africa. She published 2 papers in reputed journals on maternal health issues. My interest is in maternal and child care with the focus on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT).