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**EDITORIAL MESSAGE**

*World AIDS Day is celebrated every year all over the world on 1<sup>st</sup> December. To raise the public awareness about AIDS(Acquired immune deficiency syndrome). AIDS is a pandemic disease caused due to the infection of Human immune deficiency Virus (HIV).The day is celebrated by government organizations, NGOs, Civil society and other health officials by organizing the speeches or forum discussion related to the AIDS. World AIDS Day celebrations has become the most recognized health day's celebrations internationally. World AIDS day celebration offer the key opportunity to the health.*

*Since its discovery HIV/AIDS has caused an estimated 36 million deaths worldwide (as of 2012)<sup>(12)</sup> In 2014 it resulted about 1.2million death and 36.9 million people were with HIV. UNAIDS World AIDS theme for 2011 to 2015 is "Getting to Zero". This year South Africa will focus on ZERO DISCRIMINATION, without losing sight of the other "Zeroes" Zero new HIV infections and Zero AIDS related death. This year's World Day is taking place against the backdrop of the South Africa hosting the 21<sup>st</sup> international AIDS Conference in Durban in July 2016. This will be the second time that Durban will host this conference, having hosted the event in 2000.*

*Stigma and discrimination can be as devastating as the illness itself and may mean abandonment by a partner or family, social exclusion, job and property loss, school expulsion, denial of medical services, lack of care and support, and violence for those affected by them. These consequences, or fear of them, mean that people are less likely to come in for HIV testing, disclose their HIV status to others, adopt HIV preventive behavior or access treatment, care and support. We each have a responsibility to treat those who are struggling with an HIV-positive diagnosis with compassion, those struggling with AIDS with care and ourselves and our sexual partner with respect.*

*World AIDS day is important as it reminds the public that HIV has not gone away and that collectively, there is need to increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education to maintain and achieve the aims and objectives of the country.*

***"Let us join hands to remove stigma on HIV/AIDS and Support the friends & fellow Affected with HIV/AIDS. Lets live them in Stigma free World".***

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