HIV infection is as common among women as in men in the third world countries. Blood could be the most important means of transmission of HIV infection in Pakistan, because unscreened blood from professional donors, who lead a promiscuous life and take narcotics, is given to patients in public hospitals. The extent of homosexuality and prostitution in Pakistan is not known, but their possibility in certain areas of the country and places like prisons, remand homes and slum areas cannot be excluded. Prostitutes of low income group do not observe protective measures and use traditional methods of contraception and abortion which increase the risk of acquiring the infection. Intravenous drug abuse is not common in the developing world but the use of unsterilized needles and instruments for medical as well as traditional procedures are likely to increase the chances of contracting AIDS. As the AIDS is still infrequent in this region, it can be kept in check by health authorities providing
screening facilities in blood banks and educating people about the dangers of the disease and methods of protection.

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