**Table 3.** List of themes and sub-themes in relation to HIV patients’ perception and needs of patient care

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Main theme | Examples |
| Inappropriate care | *“there are no services provided to us other than dispensing our pills. No one asks if we are experiencing any problems with our treatments”* (P8M42)  *“I want to have a specialist doctor and expert in this field”* (P9M41).  *“we are stigmatized by the medical staff. Even when they measure our blood pressure, they wear gloves as if we were monsters”* (P7F38).  *“doctors and nurses need to have better awareness and attitudes towards this disease so that the patient is more accepting of his condition and his medicines”* (P15M45)  *“whenever I tell a doctor or a nurse in the hospital about my infection, it feels like I threw a bomb at them. Everyone runs away and refuses to treat me. Aren't we humans?”* (P4M50)  *“When I go to the hospital, I don’t tell the doctors that I am infected with HIV”* (P9M41). |
| The need for pharmaceutical care | *“I don’t know what does pharmaceutical care means”* (P11M38)  “*there is someone inside the office dispensing medicine to us, but I do not know if he is a pharmacist or doctor” (*P10M31)  *“pharmacists should check for a drug-drug interaction, monitor drug response and adverse events, and follow up with patients, in addition to dispensing drugs”* (P10M31).  *“the doctor gave me information about my medication at the beginning. No one followed up with me after that or checked if I have any concerns. They just dispense my medicine every month”* (P3M36). |
| Specialist HIV pharmacist | *“there should be an experienced pharmacist with expertise in these medications especially for whom is taking other drugs so the pharmacist checks if these drugs interfer with each other”* (P4M50).  *“I had a question about the effect of taking the medicine on the fetus, when I asked the pharmacist about it he did not know the answer. This made it difficult for to know whom to ask or refer to”* (P6F33)  *“a specialist pharmacist will increase our commitment to medicines because we will be sure that we are taking the right and appropriate information, advice, and instructions about our medicine”* *(P5M52)* |