

Factors Affecting Morbidity Pattern between Male and Female in India: A Comparative Study of Rural and Urban Residents

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Ill health as a major development deficit and violation of human rights would not be out of context in the Indian public health scenario, which is still grappling with sharp Rural-Urban, Gender and Interstate variations. Illness describes a subjective state whereas sickness describes a state of social dysfunction that affects relations with others (Susser et al, 1985). The prevailing public sector health infrastructure consists of a three-tier structure with around 3000 community health centers, 2300 primary health center and 1,37,000 sub-centres spread in semi-urban and rural areas. Out of eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) the goal number 4, 5, and 6 are related to reduce Child Mortality, improve Maternal Health and combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases respectively.

The study has been conducted with two specific objectives: to study the ailing and hospitalized male and female population in rural and urban area, and to study the factors affecting ailing and hospitalization. I have used 60th round survey of the NSSO data conducted in the year, 2004.

The data have been analyzed with the help of SPSS. The major findings show that males were more ailing and hospitalized than females in both residents i.e., rural and urban. Males have more suffered from infectious and parasitic diseases than females. The high prevalence of the genitor-urinary and neoplasms diseases among females whereas respiratory diseases high prevalence among males in both the sectors.