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#### A STUDY ON HEALTH AWARENESS AMONG THE COMMUNITY

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#### **Abstract**

Health is an important factor for the human development. If health is lost everything is lost. During the Covid-19 pandemic corona gave a lesson to the human being about the importance and the awareness of health. Community health is generally measured by Geographical Information Systems and Demographic data. Geographic Information Systems can be used to define subcommunities when neighborhood location data is not enough. Traditionally Community health has been measured using sampling data which was then compared to well-known data sets, like the National Health Interview Survey or National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

**Key Words:** Health, Awareness.

#### Introduction

Health is an important factor for the human development. If health is lost everything is lost. During the Covid-19 pandemic corona gave a lesson to the human being about the importance and the awareness of health. Community health is generally measured by Geographical Information Systems and Demographic data. Geographic Information Systems can be used to define sub-communities when neighborhood location data is not enough. Traditionally Community health has been measured using sampling data which was then compared to well-known data sets, like the National Health Interview Survey or National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

With technological development, information systems could store more data for small-scale communities, cities, and towns; as opposed to census data that only generalize information about small populations based on the overall population. Community health refers to simple health services that are delivered by laymen outside hospitals and clinics. Community health volunteers and community health workers are the main practitioners and they work with Primary Care Providers to facilitate entry into, exit from and utilization of the formal health system by community members. NCommunity health volunteers are members of the local community who have considerable knowledge of the health services available to the community and are used to identify and link beneficiaries or those in need and the registered providers. Community health workers (Community health assistants and Community health officers) are employees who do not necessarily come from the local community but have vocational, professional or academic qualifications which enable them to provide training, supervisory, administrative, and teaching and research services in community health departments. Community health services are classified into Prevention health services such as chemoprophylaxis for Tuberculosis, cancer screening and treatment of diabetes and hypertension, Promotive health services such as Health education, family planning, vaccination and nutritional supplementation, Curative health services such as treatment of jiggers, lice infestation, Malaria and Pneumonia, Rehabilitative health services such as provision of prosthetics, Social work, Occupational therapy, Physical therapy, Counseling and other Mental health services. This paper highlights the needs and importance of health awareness among the community.

## **Objectives**

To understand the importance of health care among the community

To find out the problems in health care community

To highlight the needs of health care in the community

## **Statement of the Problem**

Community health is the intersection of healthcare, economic and social interaction. Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the role this type of healthcare plays in their everyday

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lives. Health care is an important aspect of human resource. During Covid -19 periods the nation understood the fact of human health. People are not aware of their health situation and prevention of various diseases. Even though the Government implemented various health care policies and health promoting activities the people are not more conscious about the healthy life. So it is the need of the day to highlight the health awareness among the community.

# **Community Health Services**

- 1. Preventive health services
- 2. Primitive health services such as Health education, family planning
- 3. Curative health services such as treatment of minor illnesses.
- 4. Rehabilitative health services

Community health volunteers provide the most basic services such as distribution of Water chlorination tablets, mosquito nets and Health education material but will normally involve or work with registered clinicians when they encounter sick or recovering patients or those with complex or on-going needs.

It is a major field of study within the medical and clinical sciences which focuses on the maintenance, protection, and improvement of the health status of population groups and communities. It is a distinct field of study that may be taught within a separate school of public health or Preventive Healthcare. Environmental, Social, and Economic resources to sustain emotional and physical well being among people in ways that advance their aspirations and satisfy their needs in their unique environment.

Medical interventions that occur in communities can be classified as three categories: Primary care, Secondary care, and Tertiary care. Each category focuses on a different level and approach towards the community or population group. In the United States, Community health is rooted within Primary healthcare achievements. Primary healthcare programs aim to reduce risk factors and increase health promotion and prevention. Secondary healthcare is related to "hospital care" where acute care is administered in a hospital department setting. Tertiary healthcare refers to highly specialized care usually involving disease or disability management.

The success of community health programs relies upon the transfer of information from health professionals to the general public using one-to-one or one-to-many communication (mass communication). The latest shift is towards health marketing.

Community health is generally measured by Geographical Information Systems and Demographic data. Geographic Information Systems can be used to define sub-communities when neighborhood location data is not enough. Traditionally Community health has been measured using sampling data which was then compared to well-known data sets, like the National Health Interview Survey or National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. With technological development, information systems could store more data for small-scale communities, cities, and towns; as opposed to census data that only generalize information about small populations based on the overall population. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) can give more precise information about community resources, even at neighborhood levels. The ease of use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), advances in multilevel statistics, and spatial analysis methods make it easier for researchers to procure and generate data related to the built environment.

Social media can also play a big role in health information analytics. Studies have found social media being capable of influencing people to change their unhealthy behaviors and encourage interventions capable of improving health status. Social media statistics combined with Geographical Information Systems (GIS) may provide researchers with a more complete image of community standards for health and well being.

Community-based health promotion emphasizes Primary Prevention and population-based perspective (traditional prevention). It is the goal of Community Health to have individuals in a certain community improve their lifestyle or seek medical attention. Primary Healthcare is provided by health professionals, specifically the ones a patient sees first that may refer them to Secondary or Tertiary care.

Primary prevention refers to the early avoidance and identification of risk factors that may lead to certain diseases and disabilities. Community-focused efforts including immunizations, classroom teaching, and awareness campaigns are all good examples of how primary prevention techniques are

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utilized by communities to change certain health behaviors. Prevention programs, if carefully designed and drafted, can effectively prevent problems that children and adolescents face as they grow up. This finding also applies to all groups and classes of people. Prevention programs are one of the most effective tools health professionals can use to significantly impact individual, population, and community health.

# **Secondary Health Care and Secondary Prevention**

Community health can also be improved with improvements in individuals' environments. Community health status is determined by the environmental characteristics, behavioral characteristics, social cohesion in the environment of that community. Appropriate modifications in the environment can help to prevent unhealthy behaviors and negative health outcomes.

Secondary prevention refers to improvements made in a patient's lifestyle or environment after the onset of disease or disability. This sort of prevention works to make life easier for the patient since it's too late to prevent them from their current disease or disability. An example of secondary prevention is when those with occupational low back pain are provided with strategies to stop their health status from worsening; the prospects of secondary prevention may even hold more promise than primary prevention in this case.

## **Tertiary Healthcare**

In Tertiary healthcare, community health can only be affected with professional medical care involving the entire population. Patients need to be referred to specialists and undergo advanced medical treatment. In some countries, there are more sub-specialties of medical professions than there are primary care specialists. Health inequalities are directly related to social advantage and social resources.

### **Challenges and Difficulties with Community Health**

The complexity of community health and its various problems can make it difficult for researchers to assess and identify solutions. Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) is a unique alternative that combines community participation, inquiry, and action. Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) helps researchers address community issues with a broader lens and also works with the people in the community to find culturally sensitive, valid, and reliable methods and approaches.

Other issues involve access and cost of medical care. A great majority of the world does not have adequate health insurance. In low-income countries, less than 40% of total health expenditures are paid for by the public/government. Community health, even Population health, is not encouraged as health sectors in developing countries are not able to link the national authorities with the local government and community action.

In the United States, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) changed the way community health centers operate and the policies that were in place, greatly influencing community health. The ACA directly affected community health centers by increasing funding, expanding insurance coverage for Medicaid, reforming the Medicaid payment system, appropriating \$1.5 billion to increase the workforce and promote training. The impact, importance, and success of the Affordable Care Act are still being studied and will have a large impact on how ensuring health can affect community standards on health and also individual health.

Ethnic disparities in health statuses among different communities are also a cause of concern. Community coalition-driven interventions may bring benefits to this segment of society. This also relates to language usage, where results from a 2019 systematic review found that patients with limited English proficiency who received care from physicians who communicate in the patient's own preferred language generally had improved health outcomes.

## **Suggestions**

Health care unit should be maintain in every working areas

Periodical checkup should be practice by the community

Health awareness programme should be arranged by the government.

Training and orientation programme should be arranged in the community.

## Conclusion

Community health is a medical specialty that focuses on the physical and mental well-being of the

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people in a specific geographic region. This important subsection of public health includes initiatives to help community members maintain and improve their health, prevent the spread of infectious diseases and prepare for natural disasters. A lack of focus on community health can lead to a range of complex problems that aren't easy to correct. For example, crime and safety issues that result from neglected community health can quickly becoming a self-perpetuating cycle. Chronic diseases not only reduce life expectancy, they have a dramatic effect on the economy. As such, a healthy community is one in which all residents have access to a quality education, safe and healthy homes, adequate employment, transportation, physical activity, and nutrition, in addition to quality health care.

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