

IIHMR New Delhi, works with a mission of improving standards of health through better management of healthcare and related programmes, prepare students for managerial positions with a focus on national and international healthcare management.



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SYNAPSE..... Monthly health e-newsletter

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- 1) **National Healthcare Conference Transforming Healthcare Safety and Performance (NABH)**
Date: 17th - 18th March 2012
Venue: Kolkata, India
Website:
www.nabh.co/main/workshops.asp
- 2) **15th World Conference on Tobacco or Health**
Date: 21st – 24th March 2012
Venue: Singapore
Website:
<http://wctoh2012.org>
- 3) **Hands-on-Workshop on Biostatistics for Postgraduates & Research Scholars**
Date: 14th – 15th April 2012
Venue: New Delhi, India
Website:
<http://www.ijms.in/ijms-microsite/index.php>

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT OF THE MONTH

CENTRE PLANS 6.5 YEARS MBBS

The Ministry Of Health and Medical Council of India (MCI) is planning to make MBBS course six and a half years long instead of the present five and a half years. This will be done by amending the MCI Act that would make a one-year rural posting compulsory for all MBBS students. MCI said that the proposal is still in the planning stage. But if approved, the Government will utilize the 40,000 students for a year in the NRHM to overcome the shortage of doctors. In this one year of rural posting, the students will be exposed to unique cases and diseases, which will expand their knowledge. However, the students will not be paid as interns but as doctors during that extra year.

INDIA CALLS FOR JOINT APPROACH TO COUNTER COMMON HEALTH PROBLEMS IN SOUTH ASIA

The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad has pitched for greater collaboration among South Asian countries in addressing health problems in the Fourth Regional Meeting of South Asian Forum of Health Research (SAFHeR) in New Delhi. SAFHeR was established in 2003 as a mechanism for enhancing regional cooperation and partnership in health research among South Asian countries. Issues on the agenda of the meeting included vector borne diseases; Cholera, Influenza, other Diarrhoeal diseases and drug resistance. Health problems due to heavy content of arsenic and fluorides, malnutrition, high maternal and child morbidity and mortality, and non-communicable diseases were also stressed upon. Discussions on finding the determinants that may be common and their affordable solutions were considered. It also stressed upon exchange of personnel, training or multi-lateral research projects.

INCLUSION OF HIB VACCINE IN ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION FOR INFANTS IN DELHI

Haemophilus Influenza Type B (Hib) vaccine is being included as a part of routine immunization programme for infants in Delhi. It will secure infants against Hib-infections-a leading cause of childhood Bacterial Meningitis, Pneumonia and other serious infections such as Septicemia. The move is aimed at reducing the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) which has increased from 18.96 per thousand to 22.47 per thousand between 2009 and 2010. Most of the deaths leading to rise in IMR have been due to Bacterial Meningitis and Pneumonia.

EVENTS AT IIHMR

1. CIPM

IIHMR, New Delhi launches Online Web based Course of Certificate in Project Management (CIPM) - specialization in Healthcare.

For details visit-

<http://www.cepm-iihmr.org>

MDP@IIHMR

Forthcoming MDP's at IIHMR

- International Seminar On Strategic Leadership And Management In Healthcare 19th - 23rd March 2012

For MDP details contact:

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STRONGER CORRELATION FOUND BETWEEN ELDERLY POPULATION AND DEPRESSION

The Union Health Ministry's report, "Health Problems in Elderly" estimates that one in every four among India's elderly population is depressed. Also, one in three suffers from arthritis, while one in five cannot hear. It has been noticed that India will soon become home to the second largest senior citizens' population in the world. The elderly population will increase to 12 percent of the total population by 2025, 10 percent of whom would be bedridden, requiring utmost care. The Ministry's revised National Programme for the Healthcare of the Elderly (NPHCE) expects to have twenty institutions with capacity to produce forty post-graduates in MD in Geriatric Medicine per year. Additional six thousand four hundred beds in district hospitals and one thousand beds in medical colleges for elderly are proposed to come up by 2017.

INDIA'S FIRST BIO-SAFETY LAB SOON TO BE A REALITY

BIOSAFETY LEVEL 4 (BSL-4) laboratory which will store highly dangerous viruses will be commissioned in a few months at the National Institute of Virology (NIV). This will be the first laboratory in India to have the unique capability of tackling the most dangerous viruses. It will cost Rs. 55 crores. The lab will help to store viruses in a facility akin to a heavily guarded bank vault to conduct tests.

GLOBAL NEWS

WHO REAFFIRMS SAFETY OF HORMONAL CONTRACEPTION

The World Health Organization has assured that birth control methods used by women all over the world are safe measures. However, it has recommended that women on progesterone-only injections like Depo - Provera, should also use condoms concurrently to prevent HIV infection. The WHO issued a statement mentioning guidelines that allow women living with or at high risk of HIV to use hormonal contraception. This would mean that health facilities providing treatment for sexually transmitted infections would have an extended array of contraceptive choices.

DRUG COMPANIES TO FIGHT TROPICAL DISEASES TOGETHER

The Bill Gates foundation has succeeded in making heads of thirteen of the world's biggest drug companies agree in donating more medicines and to work together to find new ones. This is in an effort made to eradicate Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) that affect the poorest people on the planet. The ten diseases targeted affect 1.4 billion people. Treatments for these diseases are mostly ineffective and sometimes even fatal. The biggest contributors among the pharmaceutical companies will be Britain's GlaxoSmithKline, USA's Pfizer and Abbott. This collaboration is in accordance with the organization's initiatives for the underprivileged children.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. Hopes rise on treating spinal injuries with iPS cells transplant
2. Latest reforms to offer more benefits out of Health Insurance
3. High Value care at low cost
4. Sons can inherit heart disease from their fathers
5. Role of Y- Non communicable diseases – Experts emphasises on global cooperation
chromosomes in inherited coronary artery disease
6. AIIMS gives 12-Digit Unique Identification Number to Ballabgarh block near Delhi
7. First vaccine against fatal visceral Leishmaniasis enters clinical trial
8. India , New Zealand partner to train Medical Personnel
9. Non communicable diseases – Experts emphasises on global cooperation
10. WHO takes India off its polio nations list
11. Telomeres linked to infertility among men

US DRAFTS PLAN TO FIGHT FEARED ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

The Obama administration declared Alzheimer as "one of the most-feared health conditions" on 21st February. It issued a draft of the nation's first strategy to fight the ominous rise in the disease. More than 5 million Americans already have Alzheimer's or similar dementias, a toll expected to rise up to 16 million by 2050. The main goal is to find some effective treatments by 2025. The plan also aims to improve earlier diagnosis so that patients can have a say in choosing their care. A major campaign has also been planned to educate the public and their primary care doctors better about Alzheimer's.

RECENT RESEARCHES

CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS LINKED TO SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH

A research published in 'Nature' proves evidence linking the body's natural circadian rhythms to sudden cardiac death. Sudden cardiac arrest occurs most frequently in morning waking hours followed by a smaller peak in evening hours. The discovery will be a significant step towards new diagnostic tools and therapy to prevent or treat the occurrence of this fatal event. Research was done by Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

BREAST CANCER DRUG CAUSES BONE LOSS

A study published in the Lancet reveals that commonly used drug in Breast Cancer "Exemestane" cause a significant level of bone loss, even when the patients are given adequate Calcium and Vitamin-D intake. This drug which is taken as frequently as once a day for five years has been found to worsen age related decrease in bone mineral density by about three times, increasing risks of fractures. The results of the study showed that the cortical thickness of bones in women who took Exemestane, declined by almost 8 percent compared with a 1 percent decline in those who didn't. This is important because most fractures (80 percent) in old age are the result of greater loss of cortical bone density and account for most of the disabilities.

CARDIAC STEM CELLS CAN RESTORE HEART MUSCLES: A STUDY

A study published in the Lancet states that it is possible to regenerate heart muscles damaged due to heart attack by infusing cardiac stem cells into persons who have suffered from it. The study was conducted on twenty-five patients, out-of-which seventeen patients received infusions of Cardiosphere-Derived Stem Cells (CDCs) that were created from the patient's own heart tissue and a control group of eight patients who received standard care. It was seen that there was a 12 percent reduction in scar size in those seventeen patients at the end of six months in comparison to the control group. This was accompanied by an increase in viable myocardial mass.

CURRENT TOPIC

“Importance Of Healthcare IT In Urban Health” - Lecture By Dr. Siddharth Agarwal, UHRC India

TOPIC IN NEXT ISSUE

“Implementation techniques of HMIS in Brown field Hospital by Dr.Supten Sarbadhikari, Chairperson - HL7 India”

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REVIEW PAGE



“IMPORTANCE OF HEALTHCARE IT IN URBAN HEALTH” - LECTURE BY DR. SIDDHARTH AGARWAL, UHRC INDIA

Dr. Siddharth Agarwal visited IIHMR, New Delhi on 7th January 2012 to deliver a lecture on the Importance of Healthcare IT in Urban Health. Dr. Agarwal is the Director of the Urban Health Resource Centre (UHRC) and also is the President of the International Society of Urban Health, New York.

MAIN CONCERNS IN URBAN HEALTH -

- Urbanization, economic growth, juxtaposed affluence and deprivation
- Health Inequalities:
 - Health and nutrition disparities
 - Disparities in living conditions-toilets, water, persons per sleeping room
 - Unlisted slums/poverty clusters which are more deprived
 - Smaller cities have weaker systems and poorer health indicators.

ROLE OF HEALTH CARE IT IN ADDRESSING THE SIGNIFICANT HEALTH PROBLEMS –

- **Interactive Screens** to generate awareness and train community for emergency situation.
- **Dial a Service** facility during emergencies, ambulance service and auto on call with Trained Health worker answering queries on phone.
- **Using High Cell Phone** as a medium for information dissemination and behavior promotion, reminder for services e.g. vaccination, ANC, etc. - via community radio and text messaging, Phone call based ambulance services, information about health facilities and grievance redressal.
- **Use of Community Radio** for health behavior promotion and information dissemination about services e.g. hospital services, outreach health clinics. Seeking community feedback after a radio message e.g. as used by HIV awareness programme.
- **Emerging alternate Sources of Power** such as Battery Banks recharged by solar cells/generators for operating laboratory equipment, emergency lighting for operating theatres and delivery rooms.
- **E-Monitoring** through Health Card which can help retrieve family information and health records – either magnetic or via unique number, tracking health records, Health Information Data Management and Inventory Management of Medicine And Drugs in hospitals.
- **GIS/Spatial Mapping** for identification of disease prone area, prevalence of disease and identification of facilities available
- **GPS Technology** for medical monitoring of Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) patients, for assessing severity of PAD, in case of non-communicable diseases and also for tracking Asthma triggers.
- **Space Technology** for tracking of natural disasters and to predict and monitor the spread of communicable diseases.
- **Telemedicine** to make use of electronic information to communicate technologies to support healthcare when distance separates the participant.

References:

<http://www.uhrc.in/>

NOTE: The newsletter is open for inclusion of any information or advertisement; however selection of information will be governed by the SYNAPSE Team, IIHMR, New Delhi

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