Impacts of Biosocial factors on morbidity among children aged under-5 in Orissa.

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ABSTRACT

Child morbidity is not a single problem with a single solution. Multiple and interrelated determinants interact demanding chain of approaches and policies to be evolved to deal with such kind of health hazard. Census 2001 shows the total population of Orissa is 368.05 lakh (rural -31,287,422 and urban-5, 517,238 persons). The ST & SC population constitutes 22.13% and 16.53% respectively which together constitute 38.66% of the State population, higher than the all India figures (16.20% SC and 8.19% ST population). The infant mortality rate was 65 (NFHS-3), which was less than NFHS-2 (81) and NFHS-1 (112). The under-five mortality rate was 91 deaths per 1,000 live births. Infant and child mortality rates in Orissa are higher compared to the national estimates. The higher rates of infant and child mortality in Orissa imply that, despite declines in mortality, 1 in 15 children still die within the first year of life, and 1 in 11 die before reaching age five. Over Population and poverty are pervasive in Orissa and causing hazards such as morbidity. Children aged under- five years, whom are naturally innocent, vulnerable and dependent on their parents often suffer from viral and infectious diseases. The future of a nation is linked to the well – being of its children, which mostly depends on children's health status. The aim of the study was to examine the prevalence of morbidity among under –5 years (0-59 months) in Orissa and to determine the factors causing such morbidity. Analysis of Data reveled that 12 percent of children had diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey and among them more than one- quarter of children did not received any type of treatment. 12% received antibiotics, which are not normally recommended for treating childhood diarrhoea. 39 % of children with diarrhoea received less to drink than normal or no liquids at all, which can increase the risk of Dehyration. 3% of children under 5 years had symptoms of an acute respiratory infection.

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