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Research area: Operational and Implementation Research and Cultural Epidemiology of Tuberculosis, Leprosy, HIV and AIDS, Influenza Diabetes and Tribal Health Issues

Present research work with health systems included innovative integration of frameworks and applying mixed methods approach using cultural epidemiology to study socio-cultural, behavioural and operational aspects of Tuberculosis, Leprosy, HIV, Influenza and Diabetes. Useful guidance for local and National programme implementation requires consideration not only of the classical epidemiology of diseases and disorders, but also attention to the local community experience of illness, its meanings and both risk-related and help-seeking behaviours. Through our collaborative research undertakings with multiple sector stakeholders in Government, Private and Non-Governmental Organisations we attempt to generate evidence-base to help implement effective and locally attuned health programme strategies and policies.

Selected Publications:

- 1) Sundaram, et al., (2016) Sociocultural determinants of anticipated acceptance of pandemic influenza vaccine in Pune, India: a community survey using mixed-methods. **International Journal of Public Health (2016), p. 1-13. doi:10.1007/s00038-016-0903-z.**
- 2) Maske, et al., (2015). Socio-cultural features and help-seeking preferences for leprosy and tuberculosis: a cultural epidemiological study in the tribal district of Maharashtra, India. **Infectious Diseases of Poverty, 4:33, 28 July 2015**
- 3) Kulkarni et al., (2014). Tuberculosis Knowledge and Awareness in Tribal Dominant Districts of Jharkhand, India: Implications for ACSM, **Public Health Action, 4:3, 21 September 2014**
- 4) Kudale et al., (2013) Socioeconomic, cultural and behavioural features of prior and anticipated influenza vaccine uptake in urban and rural Pune District, India: a mixed methods case study, **BMJ Open 2013 3: doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2013-00257**

Linking, Merging, Integrating Research Initiatives with Global and National Plans / Frameworks for Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases

Operational + Implementation Research

- * Health Systems Responses to newer programme initiatives
- * Public-Private Mix / Partnerships for programme strengthening
- * Quality of Care + Antenatal Influenza Vaccine - Determinants

Cultural Epidemiology

- * Community Members, Patients and Health Care Providers Perspectives on Experience, Meaning and Behaviour concerning: **Tuberculosis, HIV, Leprosy, Influenza, Diabetes, Malaria**

Mixed Methods Approach

- *Gender and Community Views of Stigma: Tuberculosis, HIV
- *Socio-cultural and behavioural features of Influenza, Leprosy
- *Behaviour Change Communication/ACSM / IEC: Diabetes, Etc.

