



The
ICONIC MEETINGS
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International Conference on Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology

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Abstract Book





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Aashma Dahal

Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, Madan Bhandari Academy of Health Sciences, Nepal

Challenges in the Implementation of COVID 19 Vaccination in Makwanpur District of Nepal-A qualitative study

Abstract

After the advent of federalization, COVID 19 vaccination, was Nepal government's first vaccination campaign throughout the country. Since, federal system is a new concept in Nepal and many roles are yet to be figured out, the system must have experienced many challenges in the process of overall implementation of the program. This research tries to explore those challenges in order to address the needs and gaps in the current health system for effective management of such large scale programs in the future. We collected a total of eight key informants interviews who were involved in the management and conduction of vaccination program to study the challenges faced by them and the system overall in the implementation of the program. The challenges that were perceived by the key informants were insufficient logistics planning, coordination among local and higher levels, inadequate awareness regarding the vaccination campaign among the public, vaccine hesitancy and lack of a proper system and channel for data management. This study identifies the challenges regarding the implementation of Covid 19 vaccination in Makwanpur district. These challenges could be faced by governments in other districts as well.

Biography

The author is currently a teaching faculty of Madan Bhandari Academy of Health Sciences, the first provincial university of Nepal government. She graduated in Masters in Public Health with a major in Nutrition from Institute of Medicine, Kathmandu, Nepal. She is interested in Health Systems research besides nutrition research. She has published research papers on nutrition, health professions education and antibiotics awareness. She has also worked as public health officer and public health administrator under the Government of Nepal, before starting her career as an academician.

Her mission in life is to create a healthy society through improvement in nutrition behavior of the people and service delivery of the health systems



Abdulaziz Alshobaki

*New York University School of Global Public Health, Department of Epidemiology,
United States*

The Relationship between COVID-19 Vaccine and Myocardial Infarction in Adults in the US

Abstract

Objective: This study aimed to explore the association between COVID-19 vaccination and myocardial infarction (MI) among adults within a nationally representative sample of the U.S. population.

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional analysis of 27,608 adults from the NHIS dataset. Multivariable logistic regression models, adjusted for age, sex, educational level, race, diabetes, hypertension, and previous COVID-19 test results, were used to estimate the odds ratios (ORs) for the association between COVID-19 vaccination and lifetime MI. The potential effect modification by age and confounding by diabetes were also assessed.

Results: Among the study participants, 81.98% reported receiving at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Initial crude analysis suggested higher odds of lifetime MI among vaccinated individuals (OR = 1.25, 95% CI: 1.04-1.49). However, this association was not statistically significant after adjustment (Adjusted OR = 0.44, 95% CI: 0.18-1.05). Age significantly modified the effect of vaccination on MI risk, with older adults showing a stronger association. The study also found significant associations between educational level, race, and vaccination rates.

Conclusion: The findings indicate a complex relationship between COVID-19 vaccination and myocardial infarction, influenced by age and pre-existing conditions such as diabetes. Although initial results suggest a potential protective effect of vaccination, these effects were

not consistent across all subgroups. The study highlights the need for continued vaccination efforts, especially among older adults and individuals with comorbidities, and calls for future longitudinal studies to clarify these relationships and establish causality.

Keywords: COVID-19 Vaccine, Myocardial Infarction, Epidemiology, Public Health, Vaccination Safety.

Biography

Abdulaziz Alshobaki, MPH, is a dedicated and highly skilled Epidemiologist currently serving as a Research Scientist II (Data Analyst) at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Division of Mental Health. With over five years of experience in public health research, data analysis, and program evaluation, he previously worked as an Epidemiologist in the Division of Infectious Disease at the Department of Health, where he led multi-agency response efforts during major outbreaks and managed comprehensive disease surveillance systems. Abdulaziz holds a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from New York University and an Advanced Certificate in Global Health Policy, Management & Disaster Science. His recent work includes developing advanced predictive models for mental health trends and integrating data from multiple sources to enhance data-driven decision-making. He is proficient in using various analytical tools such as R, Python, and SAS. Passionate about advancing health equity, Abdulaziz has contributed to numerous publications, including "The Impact of War on Mental Health Among Civilians," "Hurricanes in Florida: Environmental Health Impacts and Public Health Responses," "Mycetoma in Ethiopia: Epidemiological Trends and Health Outcomes," and his ongoing research "The Relationship Between COVID-19 and Myocardial Infarction" and "Substance Abuse and Hypertension: A Cross-Sectional Study." He is committed to using his skills to foster positive health outcomes and improve public health strategies.



Allen Chen

University of California, Irvine, CA, USA

Worldwide Variations in the Incidence of HPV-associated Oropharyngeal Cancer: Implications for Public Health

Abstract

The incidence of human papillomavirus (HPV)-positive oropharyngeal cancer has increased to epidemic-like proportions in certain parts of the world, namely in the United States and other industrialized nations. While significant progress has been made in the understanding of this disease with respect to its etiology, underlying biology, and molecular pathogenesis, questions related to its unique epidemiology have significant public health implications. Although HPV is now estimated to cause approximately 70% of oropharyngeal cancers in the United States and other developed countries, the proportion in developing countries, including those in Africa, South America, and Asia is dramatically less. The resultant geographical variation in incidence rates among countries across the world influences efforts to promote education, prevention, and the identification of high-risk groups. Given that HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancer is increasingly being recognized as a sexually transmitted disease with unique modes of transmission, the role of public health is unquestioned and should be customized accordingly based on geography. The purpose of this review is to outline the varying incidence rates across the world focusing on potential public health strategies centered on cost-effectiveness and the need to promote general awareness among the population.

Biography

Allen Chen, MD is an internationally renowned clinician, researcher, and educator and has published more than 300 articles on cancer treatment. His original research in human papillomavirus-related head and neck cancer is credited for advancing the understanding of this disease. Dr. Chen earned a BS from Cornell University, MD from Yale University, and

completed training in radiation oncology at UCSF Medical Center and the University of Texas-MD Anderson Cancer Center. He previously served as Chairman of Radiation Oncology at the University of California, Irvine, and Vice-Chair at the UCLA-David Geffen School of Medicine. As a physician investigator, Dr. Chen has published more than 300 articles on cancer treatment and also was Chair of Radiation Oncology and Associate Director of the University of Kansas Cancer Center. Dr. Chen holds dual MBA degrees from UCLA School of Management and the National University of Singapore.



Amira Hegazy

Kasr Alainy Medical School, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt

Knowledge, attitude and response preparedness to COVID-19: An Egyptian tertiary public hospital client perspective

Abstract

Introduction: On 14 February 2020, Egypt announced its first COVID-19 confirmed case. Accordingly, the country's response included evacuation of Egyptian citizens from heavily infected countries, closure of educational facilities, and banning of all public meetings and gatherings. With rapid emerging of the pandemic, how individuals respond to advice on transmission prevention is as important as government actions, if not more important to protect themselves. **Aim:** To assess knowledge and attitudes about COVID-19 among a sample of the general public attending Kasr Alainy hospital in Cairo, Egypt. **Methodology:** A cross sectional study that was conducted in a tertiary care hospital in Cairo, Egypt over a period of 2 months in early 2020. Two hundred outpatient clients agreed to fill out the study questionnaire. Twenty-four of the total participants approved to be included in in depth interviews regarding the current COVID-19 pandemic. **Results:** The median knowledge score was significantly higher among highly educated clients than their counterparts were (23 Vs 19, $P = 0.002$) and was higher among urban residents than their counterparts (21 Vs 18, $P = 0.004$). **Conclusion:** Egyptians participating in this study had good knowledge and attitude about COVID-19, and using protective measures. This knowledge is mainly acquired through social media platforms and television. However, further focus is needed in certain aspects, including the delivery of messages regarding health-seeking behavior of people infected with SARS-COV-2.

Biography

Dr. Amira Hegazy has been a Public Health Officer in WHO Egypt since June 2019, and has been supporting the Health Systems and Security division since then, Before joining the office, she has been working as a lecturer of Public Health in Cairo University since 2012 and New Giza University since 2016, participated in projects with the National Population Council, JICA and Education Development Fund. She holds a PHD (2019) and master's degree (2016) in Public Health and Community Medicine, as well as a professional diploma from the European Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition with further education in healthcare management and quality, and a diploma in Health Economics from Universität Zu Köln, Germany in 2013. She has over 17 national and international publications in the field of Public Health.



Arslan Ahmad

School of integrated and life science, Hiroshima university, Japan

Isolation and antioxidant characterization of theaflavin for neuroprotective effect in mice model

Abstract

The mandate of the current investigation was to elucidate the therapeutic and anti oxidant perspective of black tea. Purposely, black tea compositional analysis followed by polyphenol extraction and antioxidant characterization was done. Moreover, the theaflavin from black tea extract was also isolated through the solvent parti tion method. Lastly, the neuroprotective effect of isolated theaflavin was assessed through a bio- efficacy trial. The outcomes delineated that black tea showed promising nutritional composition with special reference to protein and fiber. Among the extrac tion solvent, ethanol performed better as compared to methanol and water likewise, higher extraction was noticed at 60 min followed by 90 and 30 min. All the extracts indicated antioxidant activity reflected through significant DPPH, TPC, FRAP, and beta carotene as- 69.13 ± 3.00 , 1148.92 ± 14.01 , 752.44 ± 10.30 , and 65.74 ± 3.28 , respectively. However, isolated theaflavin exhibited higher antioxidant capacity as- 737.74 ± 12.55 , 82.60 ± 2.33 , and 853.77 ± 9.55 , for TPC, DPPH, and FRAP, respec tively, as compared to extracts. In 15 days' efficacy was physically induced with sciatic nerve injury h sciatic nerve injury physically and treated with isolated theaflavin. A total of 12 healthy albino mice were randomly assigned to either the control ($n = 6$) or theaflavin (5.0 mg/kg ($n = 6$)) groups. In these groups, behavioral tests were used to assess and compare enhanced functional recovery as well as skeletal muscle mass measurement. Serum samples included oxidative stress markers. In theaflavin leaves, behavioral tests revealed a statistically significant ($p < 0.01$) improvement in sensori-motor function restoration, muscle mass restoration, a substantial decrease in TOS, a significant increase in TAC, and enhanced antioxidative enzyme activity. Considering the above- mentioned therapeutic perspectives of theaflavin, the current research was planned to optimize the isolation of theaflavin from black tea and probed for their neuroprotective effect

in mice models.

Biography

I am PhD student at Hiroshima University Japan. My research intrest are food nutrition and animal studies.



Asma Saleh Alserhani

NYU School of Global Public Health, NY 10003, USA

Sample records for instrumental analysis experiment

Abstract

Hypertension is a significant health issue affecting millions of adults ≥ 40 years old in the USA. This study examined the relationship between alcohol consumption and hypertension, considering the influence of age, sex, race/ethnicity, and smoking status using data from the 2017-March 2020 NHANES survey. Alcohol consumption was self-reported and categorized as light (< 5 drinks/day), moderate (5-9 drinks/day), and heavy (≥ 10 drinks/day). Hypertension was based on previous diagnoses. Statistical analysis was conducted using Stata 17, with a significance level of 0.05. Heavy alcohol drinkers were primarily male (69.96%), whereas 54.23% of those diagnosed with hypertension were male. Participants with hypertension were more likely to be smokers (39.85%) compared to non-smokers (24.12%, $p < 0.001$). Heavy alcohol consumption was more prevalent among smokers (38.09%) than non-smokers (20.34%, $p < 0.001$) and more common among males. Significant associations were found between alcohol consumption and hypertension, with heavier drinkers having a higher prevalence of hypertension. The findings suggest the need for targeted interventions addressing alcohol consumption and hypertension among high-risk groups.

Biography

Asma Alserhani is a public health professional and researcher. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree at New York University School of Global Public Health and anticipates graduating in May 2024. In addition to her academic endeavors, Asma holds a prominent position as the Head of the Communicable Disease Department at the Primary Health Care Center (PHCC) in the Ministry of Health, Saudi Arabia.



BALIFELI Bienvenu

University of Yaounde I, 814, Yaounde, Cameroon

First reports of urogenital schistosomiasis in the Ndikiniméki health district, Center Cameroon

Abstract

Neglected tropical diseases are a diverse group of diseases prevalent mainly in Africa, Asia, and the Americas, where they affect more than a billion people. Schistosomiasis is considered one of the world's most important NTDs because it is ranked the second most endemic parasitic disease in the world after malaria. It is still a public health problem in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in Cameroon. In this context, a cross-sectional study was carried out from June 2023 to July 2023 in the Ndikiniméki subdivision, with the aim of knowing the status of this locality in relation to *Schistosoma haematobium* infection. A parasitologic analysis of *S. haematobium* eggs was carried out on urine samples using the sedimentation technique. A total of 402 urine samples were collected from households. The age range of participants was 1-96 years, with the most signified age group being 1-9 years. Women were the most represented, with a proportion of 56.47%. Of the 402 people examined, 18 (4.45%) were affected, with an average intensity of 54.43 ± 85.30 eggs/10 mL urine. Women were the most affected, with a prevalence and average parasite intensity of 3.73% and 53.10 ± 131.27 eggs/10 mL of urine. The most affected age group was 10-19 years, with a prevalence and intensity of 4.60% and 49.49 ± 67.00 eggs per 10 mL of urine, respectively. Of those infected, 72.22% were lightly infected and 27.28% were heavily infected. Conclusions: This study indicates that this locality is a risk area for urinary schistosomiasis despite its low prevalence.

Biography

I'm Balifeli Bienvenu, PhD student who uses a wide range of techniques to solve health problems. My research is primarily motivated by how to improve the lives of people affected by neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). My main objective is to use field epidemiological data, laboratory experiments, and population genetics to understand population structure, transmission dynamics, and host-parasite interactions in NTDs such as schistosomiasis and geohelminthiasis. To address the challenges of NTDs, my research is a little broader to determine how people manage their own risk of infection and disease transmission, what social and economic behaviors could be modified to reduce transmission, as well as what local sanitation solutions could help reduce infections at community and individual levels.



Bayan Hashim Alsharif

King Abdullah Medical City, Makkah, Saudi Arabia

Assessment of uptake of Influenza vaccine by Umrah pilgrims

Abstract

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines mass gatherings as gatherings that may impose pressures on the host country's planning and response resources. Hajj and Umrah, one of the largest annual mass gatherings, Saudi Arabia attracts millions of Muslims to its lands, with the number of domestic pilgrims reaching 24,715,307 pilgrims, and foreign pilgrims reaching 926,062 pilgrims in 2022. Overcrowding and shared accommodations increase the risk of respiratory illnesses. Although mandatory vaccinations and non-pharmaceutical interventions like face masks and hand hygiene are recommended, previous studies have reported varying knowledge and practices among pilgrims, highlighting gaps that need addressing through out the health education.

A cross-sectional study conducted among 572 Umrah pilgrims. Demographic data, influenza vaccine uptake, and knowledge levels were collected and analyzed. The sample predominantly consisted of Saudis (69.9%), with Egyptians making up (7.9%). The gender distribution was almost equal (49.7%) males, and (50.3%) females, with a mean age of 35 ± 13 years. Almost half of the participants had a bachelor's degree (48.1%), while (10.1%) had secondary education or less, and (10.1%) had a Master's degree or higher. Most participants report that they do not have chronic diseases (76.9%).

A significant proportion (62.2%) did not receive the influenza vaccine. Moderate knowledge about the vaccine was observed in (50.7%) of participants, while good knowledge was found in (18%), vaccine uptake was higher among healthy individuals (49.2%) compared to those with chronic diseases (34.3%). Gender differences were notable, with (44.4%) of males and (31.2%) of females receiving the vaccine. Although result was not statistically significant participants with good knowledge had a higher vaccine uptake (44.7%).

The low influenza vaccine rate among Umrah pilgrims is concerning, especially given the

high-risk nature of mass gatherings for infectious disease spread. Health status, gender, and knowledge significantly influenced vaccination rates. Males gender and healthy individuals were more likely to receive the vaccine, while females and those with chronic diseases showed lower uptake. These findings highlight the need for targeted public health interventions to increase vaccination awareness and accessibility, particularly among females and those with chronic conditions.

Education campaigns focusing on improving knowledge about the influenza vaccine could also potentially be taken into pilgrim's countries to enhance uptake rates. Future studies should explore the barriers to vaccination and develop strategies to address these challenges effectively.

In conclusion, the study highlighted low influenza vaccine uptake among Umrah pilgrims, influenced by health status, gender, and knowledge levels. Significant predictors included gender and the presence of chronic diseases, suggesting targeted interventions to improve vaccination rates..

Biography

Finished her Saudi Boared of Preventive Medicin and Public Health at 28 years old years from Saudi commission for Health Specialist. She is dirctor of Director of Hajj and Umrah Research and Epidemiology Administration at King Abdullah Medical City.



Bernard Owusu Agyare

Bernard Owusu Agyare

Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Conflict Settings: Time to reset Military and Civilian Integrated Response Capabilities

Abstract

Introduction

Infectious disease outbreaks present a layer of complexity for countries experiencing armed conflict or civil unrest. In such settings, outbreak responses are often impeded because health systems are paralyzed, civilian-led responses are in disarray and surrogate military responses may come with serious human rights violations.

Context and Aim (why this is important)

Increasingly, national militaries and peacekeepers are being called upon to lead or coordinate with civilian authorities to respond to health security threats, including outbreaks. There is a need to harmonize the operational philosophies of these actors. This abstract aims to identify the roles of militaries in health security emergencies and how military capabilities can be seamlessly integrated into civilian-led response operations in conflict settings.

Method

The study uses case studies from Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo to identify how militaries and civil defense assets responded to infectious disease outbreaks in those countries. The case studies are informed by the author's own participation in the military response, as a member of a national military, as a UN peacekeeper, and as a trained epidemiologist.

Findings

In Sierra Leone, the Ebola response was mostly military-led with overwhelming international

military and limited civilian organizations' support. In the DRC, Ebola response operations were largely international civilian-led with limited military (UN Peacekeepers and FARDC) support. Identified military roles in both countries included logistics transport, enforcement of quarantines, security of holding/treatment centers, operation of EOCs, and maintenance of law and order. We translate these case study findings into operational guidance for future deployments and interactions between military and civilian authorities in outbreak response.

Innovative contribution to policy, practice and/or research

Militaries have overwhelming capabilities that can be leveraged to respond rapidly to health security threats. There is a need for civilian health authorities to constantly engage and coordinate with military authorities on health security matters. Such collaborations can be achieved through periodic tabletop and simulation exercises.

Biography

Bernard is a Public Health Expert and a former military Captain in the Ghana Army. He has expertise in Civilian-Military Coordination (CIMIC), biosecurity and outbreak preparedness and response. He is currently a doctoral student in Global Infectious Disease at Georgetown University and a research associate at Georgetown's Center for Global Health Science and Security. He previously deployed as a UN peacekeeper and supported Ebola response operations in the DRC (2018/19). Bernard is a member of WHO's Technical Working Group on CIV-MIL in emergencies, a fellow of the Biological Weapons Convention's Youth4Biosecurity program, a fellow of the Johns Hopkins Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Initiative (ELBI) and a Trainee Advisory Committee (TAC) Member of the Consortium of Universities in Global Health (CUGH).



Brent Halliday

University of Southern Queensland, Australia

Health, wellbeing, and safety as a strategic priority: The upside for employees and organisations

Abstract

Australian and global businesses are facing a significant people (talent) challenge due to the increasing burden of work and public health related physical and psychological illness and disease. Furthermore, increased attention on corporate social responsibility has emerged, including strong recognition of organisational obligations in promoting individual wellness and wellbeing in the business context, as work and health are intrinsically linked. Despite this there is a distinct gap in the literature and practice providing insight into the enabling role health and wellbeing plays in organisations achieving their performance aspirations. As a prominent business issue there was limited evidence in the literature about the relationship between business strategy, workplace health, safety, wellbeing, and performance measurement that demonstrate measurable impact on organisational performance. Based on this gap this mixed-methods study investigated the relationship between workplace health, safety and wellbeing strategy, employee engagement, and organisational strategy efficacy. An exploratory mixed methods study, consisting of eight semi structured interviews and ninety-five survey responses from a cross section of private and public sectors leaders and health, safety, and wellbeing and human capital professionals was undertaken. Thematic analyses and exploratory factor analyses revealed a seven-factor health, safety, and wellbeing strategy framework that integrates key concepts, wellbeing, wellness, resilience engineering, health and safety management, employee engagement, risk management, and corporate governance. The seventeen key findings and final strategy framework provides empirical evidence for businesses to improve individual and organizational health, wellbeing, and performance.

Biography

Dr Brent Halliday his Doctor of Professional Studies (Safety Science, Wellbeing and Organisational Behaviour) at the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Australia. His academic focus has been on the strategic application of contemporary organisational health, wellbeing, and safety approaches to achieve optimal individual and organisational performance outcomes. This academic insight, coupled with 30 years of professional practice at a senior level in national and international high-risk organisations and work health and safety regulation provides unique evidence-based insights in developing solutions for complex organisational health, wellbeing, and safety challenges.



Chanvo S. L. Daka

Umea University, Sweden

Making the Connections: Understanding Inequalities in Reproductive and Child Health in Mozambique

Abstract

Background: In Mozambique, despite significant socio-economic and health system challenges, there has been progress in reproductive and child health in recent years. However, there is still a lack of comprehensive studies that thoroughly unravel the socio-economic determinants of health and health inequalities in the country.

The overall aim of this thesis was to understand the socio-economic and geographic inequalities in reproductive and child health with the intention of informing and optimizing the implementation of targeted health programmes in Mozambique.

Methods: This thesis is based on three sub-studies that used data obtained from population-based health surveys. In sub-study I, prevalence ratios (PRs) with 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) were calculated by log binomial regression to assess the relationship of socio-economic, demographic, and geographic characteristics with three outcomes of interest: insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs), child immunization coverage and modern contraceptive use. Sub-study II used the concentration index (Cindex) and decomposition analysis to assess the socio-economic and regional contributions to the wealth inequality in health preventive care. Sub-study III estimated absolute risk differences and the slope index of inequality (SII) as the measures of association between the socio-economic variables and the outcomes (ITN use, fever treatment and Fansidar prophylaxis) for the 2015 and 2018 surveys, as well as for the differences between the two time points.



Results: The proportion of mothers with at least one child aged under five years that did not use an ITN was 51.01%, while 46.25% of women had children aged one to four years who were not fully immunized and 74.28% of women did not use modern contraceptives. Non-educated mothers and residents of the southern region were more likely to report not using an ITN (PR = 1.36; 95% CI: 1.17–1.59), while those in the lowest wealth quintile had a higher chance of having children who were not fully immunized (PR = 1.34; 95% CI: 1.04–1.71). Similarly, non-educated mothers (PR = 1.17; 95% CI: 1.10–1.25), non-working women (PR = 1.09; 95% CI: 1.04–1.16) and those in the poorest wealth quintile (PR = 1.13; 95% CI: 1.04–1.24) were more likely to not use modern contraception (sub-study I). Sub-study II found a Cindex of -0.081 for non-ITN, -0.189 for a lack of vaccination coverage and -0.284 for non-contraceptive use, showing a worse health outcome among the poorest population. The study revealed that 88.41% of the wealth gap for ITNs was explained by socio-economic factors, with education and wealth playing the largest roles. With regard to the lack of full vaccination, socio-economic factors (47.74%), particularly the wealth quintile (35.79%), emerged as the predominant contributor to the inequality. Similarly, socio-economic factors (39.39%) were also the main explanatory factors for the lack of contraceptive use, but to a lesser degree than for the other two outcomes (sub-study II). Access to health preventive activities increased in all of the three studied outcomes between 2015 and 2018. Significant reductions in ITN inequality were observed for all socio-economic variables, but no decrease of inequalities in fever treatment and Fansidar prophylaxis was found over time (sub-study III).

Conclusion: This thesis revealed that bed net use and immunization coverage among children, and modern contraceptive use among women, were notably low. There was inequality, concentrated among the poor, in reproductive and child preventive measures. The greater part of this inequality could be attributed to low wealth and education, as well as to residence in rural areas. Reductions in socio-economic inequalities between 2015 and 2018 were observed for ITN use but not for fever treatment or malaria prophylaxis. Based on these findings, achieving universal health coverage in Mozambique will require an equitable resource distribution among rural regions, increased community education on health preventative measures and health service expansion to socio-economically disadvantaged households.

Keywords: reproductive health, child health, malaria, demographic, geographic, socio-economic inequalities, vaccination, Mozambique.

Biography

Chanvo Salvador Lucas Daca recently completed his PhD at Umeå University's Medical College in Sweden, with a dissertation focusing on socioeconomic inequalities in health. He currently serves as a public employee at the Ministry of Health in Mozambique, where he previously held the position of Head of International Cooperation. He has published three papers on the social determinants of health and is a lecturer in international health at the Health Science Institute in Maputo. Additionally, he is affiliated with the Center for African Studies at Eduardo Mondlane University.



Cheng Lin

Fujian University, China

Decreased miR-27a and increased PPAR γ levels during aerobic exercise may contribute to improvements of metabolic disorders in rats with metabolic syndrome

Abstract

Recent years have seen an increase in the prevalence of metabolic syndrome (MS), and improving MS with exercise is a viable option. In this work, rats with MS were used to observe how aerobic exercise affected metabolic abnormalities and to investigate potential underlying mechanisms. In this study, twenty-four male SD rats were randomly divided into four groups: SD sedentary group (SD-S), SD exercise group (SD-E), MS sedentary group (MS-S) and MS exercise group (MS-E). The MS model was induced with a high-fat, high-sugar diet. After a successful molding process, the treadmill is used for eight weeks. According to this study, body weight and homeostasis model assessment-Insulin resistance in the MS-S group was significantly higher than that in the SD-S group. High blood pressure and dyslipidemia improved in the MS-E group. In comparison to the MS-S group, the MS-E group showed decreased expression of microRNA-27a (miR-27a) expression in skeletal muscle and liver, and an increase in peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors gamma (PPAR γ), insulin receptor substrate-1 (IRS-1), and glucose transporter protein type 4 (GLUT4) expression in skeletal muscle and an increase in PPAR γ , acetyl coenzyme A carboxylase (ACC), long-chain acyl coenzyme A dehydrogenase (LCAD) and carnitine palmitoyl transferase-1 (CPT1) expression in liver in MS-E group. To summarize, this study found that aerobic exercise increased the expression of PPAR γ , GLUT4, IRS-1, ACC, LCAD, and CPT1, which alleviated metabolic diseases, while inhibiting the expression of miR-27a. Further research ought to concentrate on clarifying the critical function of the miR-27a-PPAR γ signaling pathway in aerobic exercise to ameliorate metabolic abnormalities in MS-affected rats.

Biography

Cheng Lin finished his master's degree at 25 years old years from Fujian University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. He is currently the Deputy Director of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, School of Health, Fujian Medical University, the Director of the Occupational Therapy Teaching and Research Office and the Traditional Rehabilitation Teaching and Research Office, the Secretary-General of Fujian Rehabilitation Technology Engineering Society, the Executive Director of Fujian Provincial Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine. He has published more than 15 papers in various journals.



Prof Debbi Marais

Warwick Medical School, Coventry, CV67PH, United Kingdom

Developing a connected community for global health

Abstract

This presentation will describe the process followed to develop a EUTOPIA Global Health connected community (CC). These CC's are integrated thematic networks where higher education teachers, researchers, and students cooperate in cross-campus knowledge activities within a group of 6 university partners in Australia, Belgium, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Public health by definition brings together multiple stakeholders, health professionals, policy organisations, government as well as the public. The CC aims to build a sustainable community to share best practice in terms of teaching public and global health and opportunities for exchange in offering virtual placements for students across partners to enhance the offering for all partners. In the longer term, the aim is to develop an accredited short course or combined training across partners and develop the opportunity for student research to be disseminated via a global student conference. The CC hopes to raise the profile of public health as an interdisciplinary hub of activity within EUTOPIA and globally.

Biography

Debbi holds a Chair in Health Sciences Education and is currently the Director of Postgraduate studies at Warwick Medical School. She is a Principal Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy and leads the EUTOPIA Global health connected community. She has more than 25 years of experience in the higher education environment and is committed to supporting and promoting innovative teaching, reflective practice and enhancing the student experience. She is a post-doctoral researcher with a focus on Pedagogical and Public Health Nutrition research and has a proven track record in successfully supervising postgraduate student research (PhD and Masters level) and has >60 publications.



Flutura Harold

School of Medicine, University Mother Theresa, Tirana, Albania, UAE

Is Estrogen Dominance a public health concern-and How to treat it?

Abstract

Estrogen dominance, a condition where hormones particularly estrogen is out of balance due to many factors that can have significant health implications. However, whether it constitutes a public health concern or not, is a big debate and we will explore it further in this lecture. Potential Health Implications can lead to a variety of health issues, including:

- Menstrual Irregularities: Heavy periods, irregular cycles, and severe PMS.
- Reproductive Health Problems: Conditions such as fibroids, endometriosis, and polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).
- Hormonal Cancers: Increased risk of breast and endometrial cancers.
- Other Symptoms: Weight gain, mood swings, decreased libido, and fatigue.

Factors Contributing to Estrogen Dominance of public health concern are many, few examples:

- Environmental Estrogens: Exposure to xenoestrogens from plastics, pesticides, and industrial chemicals.
- Diet and Lifestyle: High intake of processed foods, alcohol, and lack of physical activity.
- Chronic Stress: Which can affect hormone balance.
- Liver Function: Impaired liver function due to toxins, can reduce the body's ability to metabolize and clear excess estrogen.

We will review Hormone Physiology Pathway- 3 types of Estrogen and where they come from? What is Estrogen Dominance and how it influences overall health? Signs and Symptoms, how is Estrogen Dominance Diagnosed? Review the role of endocrine disruptors, inflammation and progesterone resistance. Raise awareness on estrogen dominant external factors public health disruptors. How Can You Treat Estrogen Dominance?. Review prescription personalized treatments

Review the role of Lifestyle Changes, Exercise, Supplements and Detoxification

From a public health perspective, estrogen dominance is a public health concern due to its potential impact on a significant portion of the population and its association with various chronic conditions. Public health efforts and more education and awareness needed to inform the public and regulators about the risks and how to prevent and treat.

Biography

Dr. Flutura Hasa Harold: An esteemed functional medicine doctor, board-certified Anaesthesia, and Intensive Care Unit Doctor, with two master's degrees in Public Health and Health Economics. Dr. Harold brings over 15 years of clinical experience and works for Doctors Hospital in Albania and founded DrHarold Clinic, specializing in anti-aging and hormone therapy, and is actively involved in global educational activities in functional medicine.

She is a contributor and member of A4M, Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER), IHI, AAOS, World Federation of Society of Anaesthesiologists, American Health Information Management organizations and HippEvo platform. She is a lecturer and educator and a contributor and published several papers in topics of public health, hospital infections, antimicrobial resistance etc.

In parallel she is as a fitness enthusiast, and Ayurveda practitioner since 2002. Fitness and wellbeing have been an important aspect of her life, helping her grow stronger, same time flexible and fearless. Yoga inspires her to live every moment more mindfully. As a Medical Practitioner specialized in functional medicine and Yoga teacher, with her Anti-aging expertise she is helping others to live a life free of disease, to prevent chronic illnesses and seek to thrive and live nourished and balanced every day.



Giulia Buglioni

Vaclav Vojta Rehabilitation Center, Rome 00159, Italy

Addressing Healthcare Industry Challenges: Top Management Solutions

Abstract

The healthcare industry faces a myriad of challenges that demand innovative solutions and strategic management. From rising costs and regulatory complexities to the need for improved patient outcomes, healthcare organizations are under pressure to adapt and excel. These healthcare industry challenges have an impact on every aspect of the sector, prompting leaders to seek new approaches to healthcare management and operational efficiency. Top management in healthcare plays a crucial role in addressing these issues and driving positive change. By focusing on research and development, performance evaluation, and employee satisfaction, leaders can create a more resilient and effective healthcare system. This research explores key strategies to tackle current healthcare challenges, examining how technology, patient-centric approaches, and strategic partnerships can help healthcare organizations thrive in an everchanging landscape.

Biography

Giulia Buglioni, after a Master Degree in International Communication and Cooperation in 2013, has completed her Bachelor Degree in Physiotherapy in 2019 followed by a First Level Master in Health Communication in 2022. She is a senior physical therapist at the Vaclav Vojta Rehabilitation Center with a proven track record of leading healthcare teams, mentoring junior staff and creating educational programs that enhance clinical skills and patient care.



Hammed Taiwo Babatunde

*Department of Environmental Health Sciences, Faculty of Public Health, College of Medicine,
University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria*

Associated Health Effects of Solid Waste Disposal Among Under-Five Children (U5c) Living Around Designated Dumpsites in Ibadan

Abstract

In developing countries, increased burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases among people living near dumpsites have been linked with improper waste disposal at dumpsites. Although, many studies have focused on the health effects of dumpsites on the adults and very little is known about the attendant effects on Under-five Children (U5C) especially in Nigeria. This study sought to assess the reported health effects of solid waste disposal among Under-five Children living around designated dumpsites in Ibadan. A descriptive cross-sectional study was adopted for this study. Using a four-stage sampling technique, four Local Government Areas (LGAs): Akinyele, Ido, Oluyole and Ona-ara, where the designated dumpsites are located were purposively selected from the 11 LGAs in Ibadan. From the LGAs, four wards and eight communities (two from each ward) were also selected. One of the two communities that is far from the dumpsite served as control while the one that is near is the test community. A total of 300 consented mothers of U5C who met the criteria for the study were randomly selected from households in both test and control communities for interview using a semi-structured interviewer-administered questionnaire. Also, an observation checklist and Key Informant Interview were used to obtain information on the present status of the dumpsites. Quantitative data was summarised using descriptive statistics while Chi square test and logistic regression analysis were used as inferential statistics at $p < 0.05$. The mean age of U5C was 25.6 ± 15.3 months, 57% were males in the study. The predominant level of education among the respondents was secondary school education. Majority (82%) of the test

community were aware of health risks posed by designated dumpsites compared to 66.4% of control community. U5C in the test communities were exposed to houseflies ($x^2= 45.592$, $p< 0.001$), mosquitoes ($x^2= 23.271$, $p< 0.001$), smoke ($x^2= 111.056$, $p< 0.001$) more than the U5C in control communities. There is a relationship between dumpsite residence and incidence of malaria ($p< 0.001$), cough ($p= 0.009$) and skin infections ($p< 0.001$) and the likelihood of having cholera was 2.8 times higher among the U5C in test communities. Dumpsites lacked gas recovery techniques, leachate treatment systems and the standard distance to residential buildings was not maintained. Though the mothers are aware of the health risks from dumpsites and have good practices to protect their U5C against diseases yet incidence of malaria, catarrh and cough were higher among Under-five Children living close to the dumpsites. The factors that could be responsible for these outcomes were mosquitoes, houseflies and foul smell therefore, closeness to dumpsite increases the prevalence of diseases among Under-five Children residing close to dumpsites. Therefore, it is recommended that households very close to designated dumpsites should be relocated to another place in order to reduce the health impact on Under-five Children.

Key words: Dumpsites, Under-five Children, Waste disposal, Health effects.

Biography

Dr Taiwo Babatunde Hammed holds bachelor degree in Environmental Management and Toxicology from Federal University Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun state (1999) and both masters (2009) and PhD degrees (2015) in Public Health (Environmental Health) from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He was also a Fellow of Blue Charter Programme on marine plastic waste pollution at the University of Plymouth, UK (2019). In recognition of his contributions to the field of Solid Waste Technology and Management, he received Roy F. Weston Award at Widener University, Philadelpha, Pa, USA in 2016. Following his various action-oriented and community outreach programmes, Dr Hammed has developed many innovative technologies that have earned him ten patents, approved by Nigerian Government. These technologies have already been linked with and tested in some needy communities in Nigeria for acceptability and sustainability.



Hani Alghamdi

King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

Alignment of primary care services in Saudi Arabia with the Chronic Care Model (CCM): A mixed methods study

Abstract

Aim: The study aimed to evaluate the alignment of primary care services in Saudi Arabia with the Chronic Care Model (CCM), a quality improvement and evidence-based model for chronic care delivery, specifically for diabetes mellitus management.

Methods: A mixed-methods research included a cross-sectional survey and qualitative interviews.

Results: Quantitatively, the study surveyed 237 patients and 27 physicians from 11 primary care centres. Patient perspectives were gauged using the Patient Assessment of Chronic Illness Care (PACIC-5A), showing moderate alignment with CCM, with scores ranging from 3.2/5.0 to 3.7/5.0 across various subcategories. Physician perspectives were assessed using the Assessment of Chronic Illness Care (ACIC), reflecting "reasonably good support for chronic illness care" with a summary score of 6.3/11. However, no significant correlations were found between PACIC-5A and ACIC scores, and some variability was observed among centres. Qualitatively, interviews with 11 healthcare professionals revealed barriers and facilitators to CCM implementation, categorised into systemic, cultural, and improvement recommendations. Factors like rigid healthcare structures and cultural aspects were identified as impeding the model's implementation. The integration of findings suggested that while adherence to CCM appeared high in surveys, some scores may have been inflated, and in some cases, the model was modified to fit local contexts.

Conclusion: The study is significant as it's the first to use ACIC and PACIC-5A in Saudi

Arabia to assess primary care alignment with CCM for diabetes management. It highlights the CCM's potential but also points out that existing assessment tools don't fully address critical policy and cultural issues in Saudi Arabia and the Middle East. The findings lay a foundation for future research to assess the model's implementation success, considering local contextual aspects.

Biography

Dr Hani Alghamdi currently serves as an Assistant Professor at KSU's College of Medicine and holds the esteemed position as the head of the Population Health Unit in the Prince Naif Health Research Centre. His academic foundations are rooted in an MBBS from King Saud University, further enriched by a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University, and a subsequent PhD from the University of Sheffield. Throughout his tenure, Dr Hani has been an active collaborator on several important projects within the College of Medicine and the broader university landscape. At the heart of his endeavours lies a keen interest in health policy, health services, biostatistics and data analysis. Dr Hani remains dedicated to leveraging these skills to further the advancements in the field of public health.



Hao Tang

University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine, United Kingdom

The impact of social media interventions on eating behaviours and diet in young people: a mixed-methods systematic review

Abstract

Most adolescents and young adults (13-35 years) don't meet recommended healthy eating guidelines, increasing risk for chronic diseases. Social media interventions could positively influence eating behaviours, but their effectiveness is unclear. This review synthesises evidence on the effectiveness of social media interventions in improving eating behaviours among this demographic. Seven databases were searched for peer-reviewed quantitative and qualitative studies from 2000. Data analysis employed the convergent segregated approach, including synthesis without meta-analysis (SWiM) for quantitative data, thematic analysis for qualitative data, and synthesising with concurrent triangulation. Study quality was assessed using the Mixed Methods Appraisal Tool (MMAT). Out of 18 studies identified (14 quantitative and 4 mixed-methods; 9 quasi-experimental, 7 RCTs, 2 observational), most interventions ($n=7$; 39%) were U.S.-based, predominantly utilizing Facebook ($n=14$; 78%). The review encompassed 2390 participants across interventions lasting three weeks to a year. Main behaviour changes techniques were 'Information about health consequences', 'Feedback on behaviours', and 'Goal setting'. Participants preferred personalized, evidence-based guidance and storytelling for building a sense of community. Cultural relevance and humour were highlighted to enhance engagement. Study quality varied according to MMAT, with three studies achieving an 80% quality score, nine at 60%, and six below 40%. Social media emerges as a valuable platform for delivering interventions to promote healthier eating among young people. Aligning content with youth culture is essential for maximizing engagement. Future strategies should prioritize personalized communication and evidence-based techniques to initiate and sustain healthier eating behaviours. (300 words).

Biography

Hao Tang, a PhD student in University of Cambridge, investigates social media's impact on dietary habits among youth, aiming to develop cost-effective and innovative social media interventions. Beyond academia, she is a social media influencer, engaging over 100,000 followers with content on healthy eating and body positivity.



Heejung Kim

Yonsei University College of Nursing and Mo-Im Kim Nursing Research institute, Seoul, Republic of Korea 03722

Real world data to use eRAPPORT mobile app in general population

Abstract

Suicide is a critical concern in public mental health. Although the overall death rate due to suicide has decreased globally, young generations still experience a high risk of poor mental health and self-harm behaviors, including suicide. This study aims to provide detailed information of how we developed eRAPPORT (Emotional Resources and Prevention Platform of Relieving suicidal Thoughts) based on the framework of the software development life cycle to prevent suicide.

Method: Ecological momentary interventions via mobile device applications (apps) have been developed, targeting the digital native generation. All processes of development were followed by the software development life cycle. First, we identified the current status of suicide-related apps through a literature review and app market search. In the design stage, the content and modality were developed based on consultations from mental health experts and app developers. A patient-centered approach was used for the needs assessment, which included psychiatric physicians, community mental health nurses, and individuals who were registered at the local suicide preventive center. At the implementation phase, a mobile app development company closely worked with us throughout the user-centered design, wireframe and technology app creation, expert assessment, and beta version testing. In the evaluation stage, the usability of the eRAPPORT was assessed through self-reported questionnaires and semi-structured interviews.

Results: At the analysis stage, we found 41 previous studies about suicide mobile apps and 23

mobile apps available from the Apple App Store and Google Play. The key context and features of the retrieved literature and apps were summarized comprehensively. The eRAPPORT mainly contains a safety plan, mood tracking of suicidal ideation and other mental health indicators, evidence-based information of suicide prevention and Korean resources, referrals for counseling services, emergency contacts, and Q&A. Additionally, eRAPPORT's frame and functions minimize user fatigue through concise and intuitive visualization. Its mood-tracking assessment and relevant information are evidence-based, including national guidelines for suicide prevention. To evaluate feasibility, 24 adults used eRAPPORT for a month. Overall, they reported that eRAPPORT is easy to use, acceptable as a routine, and convenient for monitoring mental health. Few contextual and methodological suggestions were provided.

Conclusion: It is helpful for future researchers to develop evidence-based mobile apps focusing on mental health services. For future research, the eRAPPORT app may serve as a platform to collect real-world data in the population to develop a data-driven algorithm to screen and monitor high-risk groups regarding suicide. Some additional needs are necessary to enhance the user's adherence and acceptability to move forward with real-world data.

Biography

Dr. Heejung Kim finished her PhD from the University of Virginia, School of Nursing, VA, USA, in 2012. Currently, Dr. Kim is associate professor at Yonsei University College of Nursing in Seoul, Republic of Korea. In addition, she has been duly elected as a member of the Young Korean Academy of Science and Technology, from 2022 to 2024. Dr. Kim has approximately 100 peer-reviewed papers in international and Korean journals, focusing on mental health issues and digital health care within ICT nursing. In addition, she has relevant patents, copyrights, and trademarks registered in Korean systems.



Ibrahim Mahmoud

*Department of Family and Community Medicine and Behavioral Sciences, College of Medicine,
University of Sharjah, Sharjah, UAE*

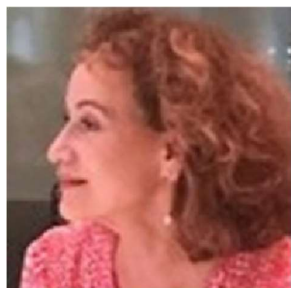
Unveiling Disparities: Indigenous Patients and Discharge Against Medical Advice in Queensland Emergency Departments

Abstract

The rising incidence of discharge against medical advice (DAMA) in Australian emergency departments (EDs) among Indigenous individuals is a pressing issue. This study, spanning 2016 to 2021, examines DAMA rates in Queensland's (QLD) public hospitals and investigates disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous patients. Utilizing aggregated data from Clinical Excellence QLD, the Healthcare Improvement Unit, and QLD Health Open Data Portal, incidence rates and odds ratios were computed, revealing an annual DAMA incidence of 7.7% for Indigenous patients, surpassing the 4.8% among non-Indigenous counterparts. Notably, 2021 saw the highest rate among Indigenous patients at 8.9%. Disparities were evident across geographic locations, with major cities (20.0%) experiencing higher DAMA rates for Indigenous patients compared to very remote areas (7.4%). Triage categories 4 (10.0%) and 3 (7.3%) predominantly contributed to Indigenous ED DAMA events. Acute group A hospitals exhibited the highest incidence, reaching 10.9% for Indigenous and 6.5% for non-Indigenous patients. Surprisingly, the COVID-19 pandemic did not impact ED DAMA rates. Addressing these disparities necessitates collaborative efforts from healthcare providers, policymakers, and community organizations to ensure equitable care for Indigenous patients in EDs.

Biography

Dr. Ibrahim Mahmoud is currently working as an associate professor at the University of Sharjah. Dr Ibrahim received his Doctoral degree or PhD on Public Health/Epidemiology from the Queensland University of Technology, Australia. Dr Ibrahim completed his Masters in Clinical Microbiology and Public Health from the Griffith University, Australia. He then worked at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, served as a research manager at the Emergency and Trauma Centre. Dr. Ibrahim has authored several publications in various journals. His publications reflect his research interests in disparities in emergency services access, mental health, and communicable and non-communicable diseases.



Islara Boixados Souto, CLC, MPH

Ideas Public Health and Education Services, Miami, FL 33135, USA

Preparing Community Health Workers for the “New Normal” in Public Health

Abstract

Since the COVID pandemic, there have been significant changes in the way we now approach community and public health -- and this “new normal” is preempting how Community Health Workers (CHWs) must be trained. We have developed a strategy to train CHWs in basic foundations Core Competencies, Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Health-Related Social Needs, integrating them into the “new-normal” state of affairs in public health.

While the waning of the pandemic has relieved some pressure on the health-care system, longstanding challenges continue into the “new-normal,” including the aging of the U.S. population and health-care workers, geographic mismatches between health providers and vulnerable populations, and the persistent health inequities among racial and ethnic minorities. Our innovative strategy to train CHWs as links between patients, providers and their communities integrates the cataclysmic changes in demographics, public health and governmental policies in order to prepare well-trained CHWs for the “new normal. Through extensive research and analyses of recent peer reviewed public health and sociology publications, as well as new federal and state policies, we have synthesized the following as the critical domains to train CHWs in the “new normal”:

- The surge of migrants into the United States with no health or social service supports
- The expansive rise of health misinformation and the influence of social media
- The escalation of Substance Abuse Disorders and the opioid crisis
- The rising incidence and prevalence of mental health crises and suicide rates
- The need to focus on an exploding “Silver Tsunami” of older patients, and
- Persistent burn-out rates among healthcare workers, especially CHWS.



Biography

Ms. Souto has over 22 years of experience in public health and is recognized nationally as an advocate for health equity. Strongly believing and advocating for CHWs as integral healthcare workers to reduce health disparities, her career includes training over 600 students as CHWs, at several colleges and universities, as well as at CBOs. She recently authored a training manual for CHWs entitled Creating a Community Health Worker Pathway Using a Novel Training Approach ©, and continues to train, mentor and advocate for the CHW workforce.



Ixtayul Leopoldo Aldama Santos

University of the State of Durango, Mexico

Evaluation of the association between lifestyle and low-grade chronic inflammation in the adult population Systematic review

Abstract

Background: Lifestyle includes the typical way of living, relating and behaving. In Mexico, the most prevalent lifestyle integrates practices that put health at risk. Prior to the pandemic, 73% of people had a detrimental eating pattern, with a high consumption of ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks. Only 31.8% carried out regular physical activity, up to 33% had some type of difficulty sleeping, while 19.8% consumed alcohol excessively, among other risk factors. **Rationale:** Approximately 75% of deaths worldwide are attributed to chronic non-communicable diseases, while 50% of premature deaths are due to lifestyle factors. Chronic Low Grade Inflammation (ICBG) is present in a wide spectrum of chronic diseases. More than 80% of chronic health conditions could be avoided or reduced through recommendations focused on lifestyle changes. Conducting a systematic review on the relationship between lifestyle and its relationship with ICBG will help to define ICBG as a public health priority that can be mitigated through lifestyle strategies. **Methodology:** This systematic review was carried out using the PRISMA criteria, data extraction included factors related to lifestyle. The type of association that lifestyle exerts on ICBG was analyzed. **Results:** The search algorithms concentrated a total of 703 documents, and finally a total of 46 articles were selected for information extraction, grouping a population n of 463,289 participants. **Conclusions:** All interventions that included healthy habits improved the inflammatory profile, and the intensity of the reduction in biomarkers is in relation to race, sex, age, risk factors, consumption of medications or supplements, adherence to the intervention and basal levels. Prolonged interventions, supervised with close follow-up, had greater improvement in the inflammatory

profile. Maintaining healthy lifestyles over time contributes to reducing medication doses, reducing the risk of presenting health conditions or complications thereof.

Biography

He completed his studies as a medical doctor at the Juárez University of the State of Durango, he is a Master in Public Health with a concentration area in aging and a Specialist in Preventive Medicine from the National Institute of Public Health. In addition, he has studied diplomas in Geriatric Medicine, Program Evaluation and Public Policy, Mental Health. He has studied a Fellow program in Creating Healthy Cities by the Danida Fellowship Center of the University of Copenhagen.



Jack Golder

The College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, USA

Factors influencing CDC- recommended preventative behaviors through the COVID-19 pandemic in college students

Abstract

COVID-19 infection trends in university settings throughout the pandemic suggests an urgent need to understand student behavior patterns that may impact infection risk. Individual attributes such as perceived physical health and generalized concern about infection can impact individual decisions regarding prevention measures and precautions during the pandemic. In this study, 418 students were surveyed to gauge perceived physical health (poor – good) and identify preventive actions taken during three time periods throughout the 2020 portion of the pandemic. Associations between perceived physical health and COVID-19 preventive behaviors (e.g., face covering, handwashing, crowd avoidance, disinfection) were evaluated using descriptive statistics, SEM, and regression models. Through the use of the health belief model, our findings suggest that physical health has a significant impact on the preventative measures taken by an individual through their overall perception of disease severity as well as their perceived susceptibility to COVID-19. However, it was found that there is no significant correlation through the perceived benefits, perceived barriers, or perceived self-efficacy. Overall, there is evidence to suggest that intrapersonal factors play a strong role in the way an individual undertakes disease control and prevention.

Biography

Originally from Wilmington, North Carolina, USA, Mr. Golder attended the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, USA where he obtained his Bachelor's of Science in Public Health. While at the university, Mr. Golder was actively involved with their Women's Health Research Team, tackling public health discrepancies across the Low Country of South Carolina. Following graduation, Mr. Golder obtained a Masters of Science in Medical Science degree from the University of Florida and is now a first year medical student at Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, working towards his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree in which he hopes to specialize in global emergency medicine.



Jerono P. Rotich, Ph.D.

Professor of Kinesiology & Associate Dean for Organizational Climate, Inclusion, & Belonging in the School of Public Health-Bloomington, Indiana University, US

Improving Public Health by Increasing Diversity in the Workforce

Abstract

To achieve optimal health, having a public health workforce that reflects the Diversity of citizens is important. For example, in the event of disease outbreaks such as the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, environmental disasters and other humanitarian crises, underserved minority communities are disproportionately impacted due to their low representation in the public health workforce.

According to Mays, Klaiman, Kumanyika, & Bernhardt (2008), in their paper titled "A Call to Action to Address Diversity in Public Health Professional Preparation, they indicate that "it is critical to have a diverse public health workforce in order to bring to bear varied perspectives when addressing the health threats in at-risk populations and, further, that developing such a workforce is a particularly important and appropriate role for schools and programs of public health and other organizations."

Enhancing Diversity in the public health workforce, therefore, requires a strategic focus on recruitment, retention, mentoring, building the pipeline, and promoting health careers starting from K-12 among underrepresented, marginalized communities. Other strategies to improve healthcare access and equity include increasing cultural concordance among healthcare professionals and ensuring marginalized communities have access to healthcare and information on navigating the healthcare system.

This presentation will focus on strategies for enhancing Diversity in the public health workforce

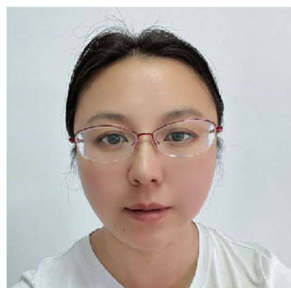
and promoting preventive health by providing cultural concordance to healthcare providers and educating marginalized communities.

Biography

Jerono Phylis Rotich, Ph.D. is a full Professor of Kinesiology & Associate Dean for Organizational Climate, Inclusion, & Belonging in the School of Public Health at Indiana University Bloomington. Prior to coming to IUB, Dr. Rotich served as Professor and Chair, Department of Kinesiology and Recreation Administration at North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC.

Prof. Rotich's work in the academe and community has not gone unnoticed. Her exemplary work has earned her many recognitions and awards that, include the: 2016 recipient of the Greensboro Community Partnerships Chamber of Commerce Other Voices Change Agent Award; the 2015 recipient of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors Excellence in Teacher award; 2015 recipient of the School of Education Senior faculty teaching excellence award; 2014 recipient of the University North Carolina A&T State University Faculty Community Engagement scholarship Award; 2013 recipient of the National Phi Epsilon Kappa Honors Society, Distinguished Advisor Award; Gottabgaa International Community Empowerment Award, Dallas, Texas; North Carolina Kenyan Chapter; 2012 recipient, Health and Wellness Research and Community Service Award; 2014 recipient of the School of Education Advising Award and was recently voted and recognized as one of the TOP 40 Kenyan women who inspire the Diaspora.

Prof. Rotich is a dedicated and widely respected servant leader, educator, scholar, change agent, and motivational speaker. She is a champion and advocate of education, women and youth empowerment, diversity, inclusion, and belonging and is committed to excellence, community engagement, and international collaboration.



Jiexuan Liu

Nanjing Normal University, 210023, CHINA

The Challenge of Procrastination

Abstract

Procrastination is a widespread issue. Managing coursework across multiple classes while balancing personal, cultural, and financial obligations can be challenging for university students. Effective time management promotes academic success and maintains good mental health. However, many students struggle with procrastination, which often leads to cramming right before deadlines. For instance, students may postpone eating until the cafeteria is about to close or procrastinate studying and other planned activities until bedtime. Every year, tens of thousands of overdue and lost book records in Nanjing Normal University (NNU) libraries underscore the growing concern about procrastination among pre-service teachers and students. Overdue or lost books can disrupt library circulation services, affect other patrons' satisfaction, and result in fines that impact the overall user experience at the library. For readers who disregard borrowing rules and delay book returns, it may indicate a lack of self-regulation. This study analyzes overdue readers at Nanjing Normal University Library from 2012 to 2023, examining factors such as overdue times, borrowing times, lost times of readers, the max borrowing days of every overdue reader and its occurrence number, and the gender and category of the readers. The findings from path analysis suggest that the accumulation of fines is a deterrent for overdue behavior by influencing borrowing habits and serving as a warning against procrastination. Structural equation modeling analysis reveals a positive correlation between reader self-regulation and overdue attitudes, negatively impacting book circulation. Additionally, the study observes the application of the law of large numbers to the occurrence of book overdue, with a weak correlation between overdue incidents and instances of book loss.

Biography

Dr. Jiexuan Liu is a librarian at Nanjing Normal University in China, where she obtained her degree. She is responsible for sourcing foreign language literature for the university library and is dedicated to studying readers' reading behavior, psychological aspects, data statistical analysis, and bibliometrics. Her research findings are predominantly empirical.



Junhui Yu

School of Public Health, Southeast University, Nanjing 210009, P.R. China

Consumption of dietary supplements improves bone density: results from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey

Abstract

The intake of dietary supplements is becoming more common, with additional supplementation with vitamins and minerals dominating in large demographic surveys. More than 35 percent of people in the United States reported regular use of a multivitamin-multimineral (MVMM) product.

Bone loss, or osteoporosis, is a contributing factor to bone disease which causes nearly 8.9 million fractures each year. In the U.S., approximately 53 million people are at risk for bone loss. Lifestyle, health problems, and medication use can all contribute to bone loss. Nutritional factors, such as vitamin and mineral supplementation, have a certain effect on bone density. It is reported that vitamin D, vitamin B12 and calcium supplementation have a positive effect on improving bone density. We evaluated the association between dietary supplement use and total BMD, lumbar spine BMD, and femur BMD using nationally representative data from 9203 adults aged ≥ 18 years from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) between 2011 and 2018. A multiple logistic regression was used in different models. After controlling for potential confounders (age, sex, family PIR, education, disease history, physical activity, smoking, BMI and obesity), a significant positive association between MVMM and Total bone density(MD:0.05, 95%CI: 0.02-0.08), lumbar spine bone density(MD: 0.10, 95%CI: 0.03-0.17) and femur BMD(MD: 0.09, 95%CI: 0.02-0.18) was observed. This implies that taking MVMM may have a positive effect on improving bone density.

Biography

Dr. Yu received a bachelor's degree in nutrition and food hygiene from Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, and then continued to pursue a doctorate in nutrition at Southeast University. Dr. Yu's research direction is nutrition and immunity, focusing on the role of nutrients in improving diseases and health conditions. Dr. Yu also studied in the clinical nutrition department and is familiar with the diagnosis, treatment and intervention of clinical nutrition. While conducting human and animal experiments, Dr. Yu also conducted nutritional epidemiological research, including nutritional surveys and the compilation and mining of nutrition and health databases. During his studies, Dr. Yu published several SCI papers, and his results were published in the journals of Pharmacological Research and Frontiers in Nutrition and Nutrients.



Juyeon Ko

Department of Preventive Medicine, Yonsei University College Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Physical activity-induced modification of the association of eye-level green spaces with the brain health in older adults

Abstract

Introduction: The impact of green spaces perceived at eye-level on brain health remains poorly understood, especially concerning the influence of physical activity. This study aimed to explore the relationship between eye-level greenness and brain health in dementia- and depression-free adults, considering activity levels.

Methods: We used cross-sectional data from 1124 participants residing in only cities in the Republic of Korea. Only-greenery, sky, and open-greenery (greenery with a clear view of the sky) within 500 meters of participants' homes using street view imagery were calculated. Cognitive function was assessed using a Mini-Mental State Examination score of ≤ 19 , and depression was evaluated based on a Geriatric Depression Scale score of ≥ 8 . Physical activity intensity was categorized as inactive or minimally active to health-enhancing physical activity (physically active) based on metabolic equivalents. Generalized linear models were used, adjusting for covariates.

Results: In individuals who are physically active, a 10 % increase in open-greenery and only-greenery was significantly associated with a 5% (95% confidence interval [CI], 0.91–0.99) and 9% (0.84–0.99) decrease in cognitive impairment, respectively. Among older adults (≥ 70 years) who are physically active, a 10 % increase in only-greenery was associated (95% CI) with a 15% (0.75–0.97) decrease in cognitive impairment. Compared with the inactive group, the physically active group had lower risk of cognitive impairment associated with open-greenery ($P=0.025$), but not only-greenery. In addition, physically active older adults

(≥ 70 years) showed a reduced risk of cognitive impairment associated with only-greenery compared to both inactive older adults ($P=0.049$) and physically active young adults (aged below 70 years) ($P=0.034$). Associations of eye-level green spaces with depression risk did not significantly differ by the intensity of physical activity.

Conclusions: Older adults who engage in moderate to high levels of outdoor exercise may experience increased resilience to cognitive impairment associated with eye-level green spaces.

Biography

Juyeon Ko has finished her PhD at Auckland University, New Zealand and, currently, she is a postdoctoral researcher at the department of preventive medicine, School of Medicine, Yonsei University. Her study area focuses on investigating exposure to various environmental sources, encompassing nutritional choices and environmental hazards associated health diseases.



Kalimah Ibrahiim

Buckinghamshire New University, Buckinghamshire, UK

Navigating the Future: Overcoming Challenges and Seizing Opportunities for Young People not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET)

Abstract

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant global increase in the number of young people aged 15 to 24 who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET), now exceeding 23% globally. This demographic trend is linked to adverse health outcomes. Engaging in health-promoting activities is crucial for enhancing health, well-being, and quality of life. This study utilized the world café method and semi-structured interviews in a 'conversation café' setting, engaging stakeholders from public health and primary care to explore how these sectors can collaboratively improve outcomes for NEET individuals. Discussions focused on identifying the root causes of these disparities, sharing experiences, and developing community-driven solutions to enhance prevention efforts and influence policy. Thematic analysis of qualitative data revealed that community problem-solving through idea exchange and reflection was pivotal. Healthcare professionals deliberated their potential roles, highlighting a gap in understanding the specific needs of the NEET population and ambiguity in responsibility allocation. The findings advocate for a unified approach in primary care and multi-agency collaboration to tackle social determinants of health and inform policy, benefiting the NEET population. Ongoing research is being conducted to further understand and address these challenges.

Biography

Kalimah is an Associate Professor and Programme Director for Occupational Therapy at Buckinghamshire New University, Council Member and Chair of the England Board at the Royal College of Occupational Therapists and British Association of Occupational Therapists. Her interests include global health humanities and health policy and systems research to the pursuit of justice in healthcare and societal transformation. She is particularly noted for integrating digital innovation into educational strategies to bolster health literacy. Her scholarly pursuits travel beyond the boundaries of public and global health, anchored in her fusion of indigenous science, traditional knowledge, and euro-western research paradigms. This creative blending is central to her mission to surmount the global public health equity divide. A beacon for change and an advocate for progress, Kalimah's insights into occupational therapy and global health humanities are deeply rooted in her extensive practical experience and her unwavering commitment to research that challenges conventional limits. She is a visionary, paving the way towards a world where health equity is not the exception but the norm.



Dr. Karlissa Wise, DSW, LCSW-C

Wise Counseling & Consultation, LLC, Columbia, US, Maryland 21046

How Do Child Protective Service (CPS) Policies Keep Employees Safe: A Caseworker's Perspective

Abstract

Child Protective Service (CPS) workers experience workplace violence at the hands of their clients. Some of these incidents have led to severe injuries and fatalities. Legislation has been created to maintain workplace safety of employees in service-related fields; however, these policies have not extended into specific laws for CPS workers. Using grounded theory, this qualitative study examined the effectiveness of safety measures from the perspective of current and former CPS workers. A total of 10 former and current CPS workers were interviewed individually. This study found that workers believe increased legislation, funding, and training are needed to increase the safety of CPS workers as they investigate alleged child abuse and neglect cases. Legislative-related responses included police protections, armed self-defense, and a mandatory buddy system policy. Funding-related responses included hazardous duty pay, resources for families, employing more staff, and mental health services for CPS workers. Training-related responses included increased training for police officers and CPS workers.

Biography

Dr. Karlissa Wise is a Clinical Social Worker who works with individuals and couples in therapy. Dr. Wise is the founder of Wise Counseling & Consultation, LLC. Wise Counseling & Consultation focuses on providing clients with coping strategies to manage stress and different life challenges. Her goal is to continue helping others in need of mental health services.



Ki Moon Bang

Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30022, USA

Epidemiology of Occupational Cancer

Abstract

Cancer is a major cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide. Occupational carcinogens were among the first human carcinogens to be identified, and the causal carcinogens between occupational exposures and some human cancers have been established. Occupational carcinogens include chemical substances, physical agents, and microbiological agents that are present in the workplace. Occupational carcinogens may cause a significant increase in a particular type of cancer in the exposed working population. Although the number of known occupational carcinogens to humans are limited so far, the prevention of occupational cancer and the protection of workers against exposure to carcinogen are needed. This paper provides an up-to-date review of the occurrence and causes of occupational cancer based on epidemiologic studies and discusses epidemiology of occupational cancer, the characteristics, research priorities, prevention, and surveillance. Epidemiologic methods have been successful in documenting cancer risks associated with agents in workplaces. Epidemiologic data are useful when an exposure-response relationship can be demonstrated. Examples of agents for which epidemiologic studies provide evidence of an exposure-response relationship include benzene and myelogenous leukemia. Vinyl chloride causes liver cancer which is an example of associations between single agents and rare histologic types of cancer. It is more difficult to conduct epidemiologic studies to identify cancer risks associated with complex mixtures. Studies of diesel exhaust and lung cancer and metal machining oils are cited as having employed advanced industrial hygiene and epidemiologic methods for studies of complex mixtures. At present, fewer than 20 known occupational carcinogenic agents have been evaluated based on studies in humans and animals by the International Agent for Research on Cancer. Furthermore, exciting developments in epidemiologic and animal studies will contribute to the identification of additional carcinogenic agents in the workplace. New biologic markers of

exposures and cancer-related outcomes need to be identified and integrated into epidemiologic studies. Because epidemiologic data regarding the carcinogenicity of many exposures are not available, research methods to evaluate and improve the predictive value of animals and in vitro systems must be developed. A more complete understanding of occupational cancer trends will require further research on occupational cancer risks and means of prevention.

Biography

Dr. Ki Moon Bang is currently teaching as professor of epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University in the United States. He received PhD in preventive medicine from University of Texas Medical Branch in Texas, the United States. Prior to joining the Rollins School of Public Health, he taught occupational diseases to the medical students and MPH students at the West Virginia University and the Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, DC. He also served at US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where he was as chief of Respiratory Disease Surveillance Program and developed various national respiratory disease surveillance programs in the United States. With more than 120 scientific publications in journals and 17 textbooks, Dr. Bang is a nationally and globally recognized eminent epidemiologist and occupational medicine specialist. His research areas focus on occupational diseases such as asbestosis, silicosis, malignant mesothelioma, occupational cancer, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, and tuberculosis. Dr. Bang presented over 70 papers on public health and preventive medicine at the national and international conferences.



Dr Layu Donatus

Department of Public Health and hygiene, Faculty of health sciences, University of Buea, Cameroon

Community Perception of the Determinants of Unmet Needs of Family Planning Among Married Women in Buea Health District, Southwest Region, Cameroon

Abstract

Introduction: The unmet needs of family planning remain low in Cameroon and more especially in the Buea Health District of the Southwest Region. Many women want to prevent pregnancy but are not using an effective contraceptive method. Most research studies have focused only on the quantitative aspect, hence the need to carry out a focus group discussion among married women in Buea health district with the purpose to explore the determinants of unmet family planning in order to promote access to and use of long-acting contemporary contraceptive methods.

Methodology: The design of the study was a qualitative exploratory survey in which focus group discussions were carried out in the health facilities in the community. The invitations were sent out to invite the participants. A qualitative survey of 4-12 respondents was done by the researcher in each Focus Group the discussed topics included Factors that encourage the use of FP methods, Making the switch from traditional to modern FP methods, Family Planning Methods Decision-Making, Accessibility of FP in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. Each focus group discussion lasted 1hour 30minutes, the perception was collected in an audiotape recorder and later transcript verbatim. The team conducted 10 FGDs (four of each of the topic areas). The FGD team provided participants with light refreshments.

Results: A total of 10 focus groups were conducted. The N-Vivo analysis software was used



to analyze the data. The following are some of the key participant perceptions that have been reported. Perceptions of Family Planning; For health reasons as well as social expectations and pressures, having children earlier in marriage was a wise decision. While there are certain issues with having children early in life, such as the mother's maturity and financial stability, having a kid as soon as feasible is the best option. It is best to have children within the first two years of marriage, with a three-to-five-year gap between them. Reasons for Changing from Traditional to Modern Family Planning; The most significant issues with current birth control techniques (such as condoms, pills (Postinor-2), implants, injectable, and IUDs) are those that affect a woman's body. Regardless of the issues, they experience with contraception, there are some benefits to utilizing it. Both modern and classic FP methods have the potential to fail. Making Family Planning Decisions; Extended families, particularly mothers-in-law, have a strong influence on family planning and size decisions, and family members assist in resolving FP issues and challenges. Participants want to know about the adverse effects of current birth control techniques, especially in the long run, and how contraceptives affect a future pregnancy. Accessibility of FP in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic; Participants have mixed perceptions of whether covid-19 context influences their accessibility to family planning.

Conclusion: The focus groups demonstrated that participants have a nuanced and sophisticated awareness of pertinent topics that significantly impact them. While cultural and social conventions surrounding family planning difficulties and decision-making continue to put pressure on women, traditional and modern family planning methods are well-known. Participants also reported a strong desire to learn more about family planning alternatives, the effects of different methods on their bodies, and to have access to a wider selection of general and specialist family planning services. Fear was produced by the backdrop of Covid-19, but women are rapidly overcoming these fears to have access to family planning.

Keywords: Community Perception, Unmet Need, Contraception, Buea Health District, Cameroon.

Biography

Dr. Layu Donatus grew up in a small village in Shisong Kumbo, Bui Division Cameroon, and had an interest in health care during his infancy. He eventually went to Nigeria and graduated from the College of Medicine at Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. He enrolled and earned a Master's in Reproductive Health from the prestigious Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC). He is also a certified epidemiologist and holds a Ph.D. in Public Health from the most prestigious University of Buea Cameroon.

At the University of Buea Cameroon, he completed the Ph.D. program in Public Health and successfully defended his thesis. The thesis is titled "The Impact of using one-way SMS messages to improve unmet family planning needs in the Buea Health District." A randomized controlled experiment" used one-way SMS messaging to give a community strategy to address unmet family planning needs. Through the MoH and other international NGOs working

in contraception and reproductive health in Cameroon, this strategy can help develop a contemporary contraceptive system.

I am also a resolute researcher with five papers under my belt and excellent reporting skills and have worked as a consultant with UNFPA Reproductive Health Expert and trained in minimum initial service package (MISP) in ASRH and SRH. A mentor in maternal and child health and a trainer and supervisor of midwives in emergency obstetrical care, clinical management of Rape, and family planning and Gender Based Violence) GBV. I have experience in HIV care, Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT), and Exposed infant care and management. With 13 years of experience and extensive knowledge of Maternal and child health, Public Health Epidemiology, and strategic information management, expertise in managing Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) who face significant risks as a result of HIV/AIDS and its socio-economic effects in Cameroon. Project Implementation with PEPFAR Funding, OVC Program Coordination of vulnerable children, child protection, paediatric HIV and community mobilization with USAID-funded projects, Reproductive Health Care Services, and Maternal and Child Health/Family Planning Care Services, he is well-versed in completing tasks while collaborating with the team, community, and stakeholders.



Lim Jia Hui Petrina

Senior Staff Nurse, Division of Nursing, Singapore General Hospital, Outram Road 169608, Singapore

Facilitators and barriers to the implementation of surgical safety checklist: an integrative review

Abstract

Surgical procedures pose an immense risk to patients, which can lead to various complications and adverse events. In order to safeguard patients' safety, the World Health Organization initiated the implementation of the Surgical Safety Checklist (SSC) in operating theatres worldwide. The aim of this integrative review was to summarize and evaluate the use and implementation of SSC, focusing on facilitators and barriers at the individual, professional, and organizational levels. This review followed closely the integrative review method by Whittemore and Knafl. An English literature search was conducted across three electronic databases (PubMed, CINAHL, and EMBASE) and other hand search references. Keywords search included: 'acute care', 'surgical', 'adult patients', 'pre-operative', 'intra-operative', and 'post-operative'. A total of 816 articles were screened by two reviewers independently and all articles that met the pre-specified inclusion criteria were retained. Data extracted from the articles were categorized, compared, and further analysed. A total of 34 articles were included with the majority being observational studies in developed and European countries. Checklists had been adopted in various surgical specialities. Findings indicated that safety checklists improved team cohesion and communication, resulting in enhanced patient safety. This resulted in high compliance rates as healthcare workers expressed the benefits of SSC to facilitate safety within operating theatres. Barriers included manpower limitations, hierarchical culture, lack of staff involvement and training, staff resistance, and appropriateness of checklist. Common facilitators and barriers at individual, professional, and organizational levels have been identified. Staff training and education, conducive workplace culture, timely audits, and appropriate checklist adaptations are crucial components for a successful implementation of

the SSC. Methods have also been introduced to counter barriers of SSC.

Biography

As a perioperative nurse, she is dedicated to delivering compassionate care and support to patients. Grounded in nursing principles and clinical proficiency, she strives to have a positive influence as a patient advocate, prioritizing their safety in operating theatre. Collaborating with her team, they authored a literature review focusing on patient care by analyzing the surgical team and their pivotal role in facilitating seamless surgical procedures.



Lim Siong Hee

Department of Community Medicine and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health Science, Malaysia. UNIMAS

Enhancing Freshness: Evaluating Preservative Types and Levels in Jujube Fruits Sold in Samarahan, Sarawak

Abstract

Jujube, also known as Chinese date, is a small, sweet fruit that grows on the *Ziziphus jujuba* tree. It's native to southern Asia but has been cultivated in many other regions around the world. The fruit is typically round or oval and can vary in size from a cherry to a plum. Jujubes can be eaten fresh, dried, or preserved and are often used in cooking, baking, and traditional medicine. They're rich in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, making them a nutritious snack option. Various food preservatives, including sulfur dioxide, are applied to jujubes before they are exported from their country of origin. Overdosing or overconsuming sulfur dioxide may cause severe adverse health effects, including cardiovascular and respiratory problems. Thus, this project is aimed to determine the type as well as level of preservative used in jujube that sold at Samarahan district, Sarawak. Two samples of jujube fruits were randomly obtained from the two largest jujube sellers in Samarahan district in January 2024. The samples were then processed directly at the same day, at the designated food laboratory for analysis of food preservatives, including formaldehyde, benzoic acid, sorbic acid, and sulfur dioxide. Sulfur dioxide was the only preservative identified in both samples, with a reading of 8 mg/kg. No formaldehyde, benzoic acid, or sorbic acid was detected in either sample. The present study indicates that jujube fruits sold in Samarahan district contain normal levels of food preservatives, with sulfur dioxide being the primary preservative utilized for jujube fruit.

Biography

I have 15 years of work experience with the Ministry of Health, Malaysia. I completed my Master's in Public Health in 2018 and earned a Doctorate in Public Health in 2021. Currently, I am a senior medical lecturer at the University Malaysia Sarawak, actively supervising master's students in their research.



Long Ngo, PhD

Harvard Medical School and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, US

Intranasal Insulin and its Effects on Gait and Cognition in People with Diabetes and Prediabetes

Abstract

Over 40 million people in the United States (1 in 12 persons) and 415 million worldwide are living with diabetes (DM). Ninety six million have prediabetes, and 80% of them are unaware that they have the disease. These people have 60% higher risk of cognitive decline progressing toward Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (AD/ADRD). Health care cost of DM is over \$300 billion annually in the United States. Intranasal insulin (INI) has the potential to help improve gait and cognition and to slow down cognitive decline in this population. Our group was funded by the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) to carry out a randomized control trial to assess the safety and efficacy of INI in a 5-year study called MemAID (Memory Advancement with Intranasal Insulin). We followed a cohort of 223 participants recruited from two large teaching hospitals for one year. Participants were randomized to receive either placebo or INI daily in the first six months, and were followed up for another six months. Longitudinal measurements of gait and cognition were collected and used in linear mixed effects models to estimate the treatment effect. We found INI to have beneficial effects (faster gait speed and improved memory and executive function) on people with type II diabetes (T2DM) and prediabetes. We found INI to be safe. In our current work, we are implementing a personalized medicine approach by combining and modeling clinical phenotypes with proteomic data (we have blood samples at 5 different time points) to identify people who would benefit the most from INI treatments with improved cognition and gait and regression toward cognitive impairment and dementia (AD/ADRD). The clinical impact of this work is that clinicians will be able to advise patients better, based on their predicted probability of having an improvement, and together with other information, whether or not INI should be prescribed to them.

Biography

Dr. Long Ngo is Associate Professor of Medicine and Biostatistics at Harvard University. He is also Director of Biostatistics in the Division of General Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Long Ngo has published 260 papers on different areas of methodological and clinical research. He is a member of the editorial board of several journals. He has taught and mentored many students, residents, fellows, and junior faculty members. He is currently working on several NIH-funded collaborative projects on proteomics and its application in aging research.



Martine Kallimbu Joseph

Mbalizi District Designated Hospital P.O Box 6117, Mbeya Tanzania

The Influence Of The Perception, Attitude And Level Of Trust On The Uptake Of Covid-19 Vaccinations Among Pregnant Women Attending Antenatal Care Clinic In Mbeya Urban, Tanzania

Abstract

Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is one of the respiratory diseases which is caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona-virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The pandemic has been impacting negatively people's health as it causes high mortality rate among lower immune people (vulnerable groups) including pregnant women among others thus leading to economic decline and social dysfunctionality of communities Worldwide, Africa and Tanzania. As recommended by WHO elsewhere in the world, Tanzania has also been implementing several preventive measures to curb the spread of the pandemic in general population including adherence to infection prevention control (IPC) protocols and the use of COVID-19 vaccination to its people as it has been credited to be an effective way of combating the pandemic. However, many studies have reported that due to various factors, there is low uptake of COVID 19 vaccine among pregnant women worldwide.

This study was conducted in Mbeya urban in three government health facilities selected based on the client's volume, namely MZRH, MRRH and Kiwanja Mpaka Health Centre. A cross sectional quantitative design using questionnaire administered using face to face with closed ended questions was used for data collection. Data cleaning and data analysis was done using excel and stata/SE 14.1 software for bivariate and multivariate data.

The proportion of pregnant women vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccine was 27%. There was statistically significant association between vaccine uptake and pregnant women's primary school education level $P=0.015$ (AOR=6.58; 95% CI; 1.45-29.85), and 5-10 years of work

experience with $P=0.046$ (AOR=2.45; 95% CI; 1.02-5.89). The influence of attitude to vaccine uptake (positive attitude to vaccine acceptance as influenced by vaccine availability and respondents vaccine acceptance for herself and for her baby, and receiving other vaccine in the past 5 years), had statistical significant association of $P=0.011$ (AOR=4.43; 95% CI; 1.41-13.93), $P=0.001$ (AOR=45.83; 95% CI; 18.6-112.89), Level of trust to vaccine had an association to vaccine uptake in 2nd and 3rd trimester of pregnancy (14-28 weeks and above 28 weeks of gestation age $p=0.633$ (AOR=1.23; 95% CI; 0.53-2.48).

Biography

Martine completed his Master's in Public Health from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS). He has been the head of the eye department at Mbalizi Designated Hospital for three years and possesses a strong background in Optometry and Social Work. Martine has worked in rural health settings in Tanzania for the past 11 years. Currently, he attended a meeting on the International Public Health Management Development Program (IPHMDP) at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER Chandigarh, India). He has returned to Tanzania with the aim of implementing a Tobacco-Free Initiative among youth in the Mbeya region for the coming year 2024.



Mehmet Sinan Saricicek

Izmir Bozyaka Research and Training Hospital, No:59 35170, Karabaglar/Izmir Türkiye

How can we prevent both HIV and HIV related stigma?

Abstract

HIV is a retrovirus whose source is nonhuman primates. Despite technological advances and improvements in HIV management, HIV is still a global public health problem. According to current data, 40.4 million people worldwide are living with the virus. In 2022, 630,000 people died from HIV-related causes, and 1.3 million people were infected with HIV, 130,000 of whom were children aged 14 and under. Although the level of social awareness has increased worldwide, PLWH are still stigmatized and marginalized in terms of service provision. The stigmatization of PLWH is a barrier to treatment and impairs the health and quality of life of individuals. In addition to the global impact of HIV, being diagnosed with HIV has many devastating effects on individuals. These devastating effects negatively affect the general well-being of PLWH and constitute an obstacle to accessing treatment. In addition to the devastating effects of being diagnosed, stigmatization is one of the most important factors that pushes PLWH to isolate, to avoid treatment and testing, to stop antiretroviral therapy (ART) and even to commit suicide.

Biography

Enthusiastic MD from Türkiye. Graduated from medical school in 2020. Since then he worked variety of departments including emergency, internal medicine and family medicine. He wrote his finishing thesis in Family Medicine Training called ‘‘Healthcare Workers’ Attitudes Towards PLWH’’ to find the ways of reducing stigma and at the end HIV incidence. He will obtain Family Medicine Specialist title very soon.



Mirwais Ramozi

Faculty of Medicine, Kateb University, Afghanistan

Earthquakes and Taliban Decrees: The Plight of Afghan Women and Children

Abstract

Following the Taliban's takeover in August 2021, Afghanistan confronts compounded challenges from both seismic political shifts and catastrophic natural events. Earthquakes in Khost and Herat provinces have resulted in thousands of casualties, with the majority being women and children, highlighting structural vulnerabilities of Afghan homes made from sun-dried bricks. Concurrently, the Taliban's restriction on women's participation in non-governmental organizations (NGOs) has strained essential health and aid services. This situation is exacerbated by international decisions to reduce aid allocations. This convergence of crises has disproportionately affected women and children, with potential surges in malnutrition, diseases, and child marriages. This scenario underscores the urgent need for the global community to prioritize humanitarian considerations over political disagreements, ensuring aid reaches the vulnerable and NGOs can operate amidst ongoing challenges.

Biography

Dr. Mirwais Ramozi is a dedicated medical professional with a passion for research and scholarly pursuits. He currently serves as a member of the esteemed Kateb Medical Research Center at Kateb University in Kabul, Afghanistan. Alongside his research endeavors, Dr. Ramozi holds the distinguished position of Editor-in-Chief for the "Health Scientific Journal," a prominent publication dedicated to advancing medical knowledge and promoting healthcare advancements.



Muhammad Fakhruddin Al-Razi

Universitas Muhammdiyah Yogyakarta (UMY), Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Local and Global Trends on Mindfulness during Islamic Prayer (Khusyu') Studies: Where and How it Should be Linked

Abstract

This article aims to map research trends about khusyu' nationally or internationally. The method used is a qualitative, manual, and bibliometric analysis of two data sources between Scopus and Google Scholar. The results showed that on a national scale, the trend of khusyu' studies can be mapped into three categories through the analysis of tafsir, law or jurisprudence, and studies that relate khusyu' to psychological variables. On an international scale, using the word khusyu' is less popular among researchers, and the investigation is more multidisciplinary-multicultural. This research is helpful as a reference for researchers in looking at the concept map of the distribution of khusyu' study trends, determining relevant and significant sources, and projecting research on khusyu' in the future. This study concludes that the trend of khusyu' studies has begun to penetrate mental health themes and can be projected as a reference for intervention or therapy in overcoming psychological problems in the coming years.

Biography

A young man who is still completing doctoral studies in the field of Islamic Educational Psychology at the University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY). He has studied bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology. He is interested and concerned with many topics in culture and religious psychology, especially those related to religious thought and culture in Islam. He also participated in many scientific writing events.



Nguyen Anh Tuyet

Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University, Japan

Prediction of Cardiovascular Disease and Hypertension using Machine Learning: Findings from VSTEPS Noncommunicable Disease Risk Factors Survey

Abstract

The prevalence of Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) and Hypertension is increasing globally, with a particularly pronounced impact on low and middle-income countries. This study proposes a predictive model for CVD and Hypertension utilizing machine learning (ML) algorithms. Five ML algorithms, including RF, DTB, DT, XGBoost, and SVM, were deployed to enhance the accuracy of disease predictions. The performance evaluation of these algorithms included accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and area under the receiver operating characteristic curve. Moreover, an explainable AI approach was adopted, leveraging SHAP frameworks to gain insights into the model's predictive mechanisms. The results show that age, intoxication lapse, vegetables, and adding salt on the table were important risk predictors of CVD and hypertension. The study's outcomes emphasize the effectiveness of the Random Forest model. Therefore, ML provides a proficient mechanism for the precise prediction of individuals susceptible to developing disease in its early stages.

Biography

Nguyen Anh Tuyet was awarded her PhD in international public policy at OSIPP, Osaka University, Japan. She is a researcher at Iafor centre, Osaka University. Her main fields of interest are health policy, inequality, machine learning, applied econometrics, and interdisciplinary research.



Noor Al Khor, MD

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Use of unstructured patient interviews to determine patient expectations at a breast screening service

Abstract

Breast mammography screening has been shown to significantly decrease morbidity and mortality from breast cancer. However, in Qatar, initial and continued participation in breast screening services remains notoriously low. Although awareness of the risks of breast cancer and the importance of screening is increasing, there remain many barriers that prevent women from undergoing screening. The purpose of this study was to interview a group of Qatari national and non-national women in Qatar, to identify their needs and preferences regarding the management of breast health. Unstructured interviews with over 50 women from diverse nationalities and ages was performed exploring their attitudes toward healthcare services in general and breast health services specifically. Although the interviews revealed a few differing attitudes toward breast health management, most women demonstrated a strong willingness to undergo breast screening. The interviews also demonstrated striking patterns in expectations, including the preference for efficient, comprehensive care as well as the need for an empathetic healthcare provider. The conclusions of these interviews provide invaluable insights into the attitudes and preferences of women patients, which should be taken into consideration at any planned or existing breast screening/ breast imaging practice.

Biography

Dr. Noor Al-Khori completed a residency in Radiology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medicine (NYPH/WCM) in New York City followed by a fellowship in Breast Imaging at NYPH. She then pursued a Pediatric Radiology fellowship at Stanford Children's Hospital at Stanford, California. She is currently working as a Attending Radiologist at Sidra Medicine, a semi-governmental tertiary care hospital for women and children in Qatar. Dr. Al-Khori holds a Master of Science in Health Economics and Policy from the London School of Economics, a Master of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Chicago, and an Executive MBA from HEC Paris. In addition, she holds a Certificate in Safety, Quality, Informatics and Leadership from Harvard Medical School.



Peiyun Wu

School of Health, 350122, China, Fujian Medical University

A population-based longitudinal study of CLHLS: cognitive trajectories, potential influences, and correlations with mental health in hypertensive older adults

Abstract

Research on the trajectories of cognitive performance in older adults with hypertension, potential risk factors, and associations between mental health and cognitive performance is lacking. Our goal was to perform a longitudinal study that is nationally representative in order to look into changes in the trajectories of cognitive performance and the factors that are related to it. The Chinese Longitudinal Healthy Longevity Survey provided the data for our investigation (CLHLS). Cognitive function was evaluated using the Mini-Mental State Examination (C-MMSE), Chinese version. Using group-based trajectory modeling (GBTM), the trajectories of hypertensive older persons' cognitive function were ascertained. The study employed binary logistic regression analysis to investigate the impact of participant characteristics on the cognitive performance trajectories of older adults with hypertension. Multivariable linear regression models were used to examine the connections between mental health and cognitive function. Stata 16.0 and SPSS 20.0 were used for data analysis. There were 642 elderly hypertensive individuals included. GBTM classified cognitive performance into two trajectories: "rapid decline" (48, 7.9%) and "slow decline" (594, 92.1%). According to the results of binary logistic regression, hypertensive older adults who were 80 years of age or older had a higher risk of experiencing a rapid decline in cognitive performance (OR=5.484, 95%CI: 2.365-12.719), and a higher mental health score was associated with a lower likelihood of experiencing a rapid decline in cognitive performance over the next 13 years (OR=0.918, 95%CI: 0.852-0.988). Mental health and cognitive performance were positively correlated in the uncorrected model ($\beta=0.246$, 95% CI: 0.125-0.234, $P<0.001$), and this correlation

persisted even when variables were partially or fully controlled for ($\beta=0.159$, 95% CI: 0.059-0.174, $P<0.001$; $\beta=0.138$, 95% CI: 0.043-0.158, $P=0.001$). Our findings demonstrated that the deterioration in cognitive function is more rapid in older persons with hypertension who are above 80 years of age and is linked to worse mental health.

Biography

She is currently a graduate student enrolled in Rehabilitation Therapy at Fujian Medical University.



Perena Wasterfall

University of Southampton, UK

Cyber Paranoia and General Paranoia in non-clinical adolescents

Abstract

Aims: The purpose of this project is; to learn how adolescents describe their experiences of paranoia and cyber paranoia, investigate the prevalence of cyber-paranoia in non-clinical adolescents, determine the extent to which paranoia coexists with cyber-paranoia and ascertain whether adolescents make use of metacognitive strategies to control thoughts in the presence of paranoia. The project will include a systematic literature review of the impact of cyber bullying and online victimisation on the mental health of adolescents aged 14 to 18.

Study Design: A quantitative cross-sectional design will be utilised. Participants will respond to an online survey where data will be collected on age, gender identity, biological sex and ethnicity. Anxiety and depression will be measured and controlled for, given their association with paranoia and metacognition. Several qualitative questions for participants to provide typed responses will also be included in the survey.

Methods: Paranoia will be measured using the personal experiences of paranoia scale (PEPS). The cyber paranoia and fear scale will measure cyber paranoia and the GAD-C and PHQ9 will respectively capture anxiety and depression. The TCQ will measure the effectiveness of strategies utilised to control unpleasant and unwanted thoughts. Latent class analysis (LCA) will be carried out using the PEPs and the cyber paranoia and fear scale. Analyses will ascertain what metacognitive strategies are utilized to control thoughts in the presence of paranoia and/or cyber paranoia.

Impact: We hope this knowledge will support and inform the ongoing initiatives in the

metropolitan police to understand how young persons may be impacted by having been victims of cybercrime. The study will give an insight into the prevalence of cyber paranoia in adolescents and can be used to inform safeguarding practices and educate young persons about cyber paranoia. The knowledge can be used to educate and inform parents and adolescents about the risks associated with technology as well as provide information on the adverse effects on mental health, thus helping to develop preventative educational programmes. The study can add knowledge to safeguarding practices, and inform the support strategies for adolescents experiencing distress related to interactions with internet-based technologies.

Biography

Perena is in her final year of study for the doctorate in educational psychology (DedPsych) at the University of Southampton. Having completed an undergraduate honours degree in Mathematics and Physical Education she then spent 25 years in education before completing a master's degree in psychology. During her master's degree, Perena carried out research into the experiences of student's, classified as pupil premium, learning in mathematics. During her doctorate, Perena has co-authored research looking at the experiences of emotional literature support assistants (ELSA) practice, during and outside of the COVID-19 pandemic, this has been submitted for publication. Her interests are supporting the learning of students who are experiencing mental health difficulties, improving metacognition in young people and improving the learning experience in mathematics.



Dr. Ramya Rajaram

NNEdPro Global Institute for Food, Nutrition & Health, United Kingdom

Examining the Economic and Community Impact of Microenterprise Implementation in the Mobile Teaching Kitchen (MTK) Initiative: A Multi-faceted Evaluation

Abstract

This study evaluates the impact of the Mobile Teaching Kitchens (MTK) Initiative in Kolkata, India, focusing on nutrition, economic development, and community empowerment. Our objectives include assessing participants' nutritional knowledge enhancement, training effectiveness, and ROI for micro-enterprise initiatives. Utilizing a comprehensive KAP questionnaire tailored to local dietary patterns and internally validated, we measured participants' knowledge, attitudes, and practices. Financial data, including sales records and expense logs, provided insights into revenue generation and cost management within the MTK initiative. Additionally, performance data from internal evaluations assessed champions' competence in cooking, communication, and overall effectiveness. Post-intervention, significant improvements were observed in nutrition literacy and attitudes. Champions' performance data revealed varying levels of competence, with some excelling in cooking and communication. Financial analysis highlighted income generation challenges but indicated potential for economic empowerment. Methodologically, KAP surveys gauged participants' knowledge, attitudes, and practices, while financial data analysis provided insights into revenue generation and expense management. The MTK Initiative shows promise in improving nutrition outcomes and fostering economic and community development. Further research is warranted to assess sustainability and scalability for wider public health impact.

Biography

She is a dynamic professional with a diverse background in Dentistry and Public Health. Armed with a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Dundee, Scotland, Ramya brings a blend of clinical expertise and a passion for public welfare to her work. She has demonstrated her commitment to advancing public health through innovative approaches and has contributed significantly to various projects, including data analysis, administrative tasks, and digital content creation. She is looking to carve her own space in the public health field through her continued contributions.



Ritha Anderson Willilo

Faculty of Medine, University of Bergen, Postboks 7804,5020 Bergen, Norway

Stakeholders' engagement in priority-setting of the essential health services in Tanzania

Abstract

Since 1996, Tanzania has defined its first essential health service package (EHP) to address the health needs of the people. Subsequent revisions occurred in 2000 and 2013, with the latest revisions process commenced in 2023 to align with the global goal of achieving universal health coverage by 2030. The overall objective is to assess stakeholder engagement and the inclusion of diverse views in the priority-setting process for the design of EHP. This study used a qualitative case study method. We collected data through the review of documents, published studies, observations during priority-setting meetings, and in-depth interviews with key informants. Approximately 25 key informants will participate, organized into seven groups, including the Ministry of Health at all levels, Inter-sectoral representatives (Ministry of Finance, President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government), non-governmental organizations, academia, and representatives from patients, public and vulnerable groups. Interview data will be analyzed using NVivo12 qualitative data analysis software. The analysis will be guided by the procedural fairness framework, originating from the health financing of UHC. The framework details how stakeholders are included, informed, and treated during the decision-making process. The analysis of results is expected to be completed in March 2024. The expected results include improved equity in the decision-making process by incorporating diverse views from the public, with emphasis on vulnerable and disadvantaged populations such as the poor, people with disabilities, and persons living in underserved areas. Moreover, this framework is expected to show how this process promoted legitimacy, built trust, and ensured the sustainability of the implementation of priority health care.

Biography

A Ph.D. candidate specializing in health economics and priority setting at the Bergen Centre for Ethics and Priority Setting (BCEPS), Faculty of Medicine, University of Bergen, Norway.



Roni Miah

Department of Medical Biology, UiT- The Arctic University of Norway, 9019, Tromsø, Norway

Development of inducer-free, fluorescent reporter labeled CRISPR interference system in Staphylococcus aureus

Abstract

Over the past 15 years, methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) has become a major public health problem. CRISPR interference (CRISPRi)-seq is a very promising approach nowadays for the identification of essential genes in multidrug-resistant S.aureus could open the door to novel antimicrobial strategies, including targets for new synergistic drug combinations. The CRISPRi gene regulation technique requires two components: a catalytically inactive Cas9 protein (dCas9) and a single-guide RNA (sgRNA) that targets the gene of interest. Normally, this system is activated by expressing dCas9 through an inducible gene promoter, but this approach is not ideal for animal model studies of S. aureus. Therefore, our goal was to develop an inducer-independent, fluorescent reporter-labeled CRISPRi tool for silencing genes and dissecting the underlying mechanism of S. aureus pathogenesis in the host interface.

Initially, we developed fluorescent reporter-labeled inducer-dependent CRISPRi tools. Later on, we attempted to replace the inducible gene promoter with S. aureus virulence gene promoters to make our developed tool inducer-free. Unfortunately, we encountered issues with the functionality of the selected S. aureus gene promoter, as well as dCas9 toxicity in E.coli IM08B, which made it difficult to construct the dCas9 expression plasmid. We eventually discovered that dCas9 toxicity could cause instability in the dCas9 expression plasmid in IM08B. However, after testing several dCas9 toxicity-tolerant E.coli strains, we found that the NEB10-beta strain was the best choice for cloning our dCas9 expression plasmids. Finally, we successfully developed our fluorescent reporter-labeled CRISPRi tools as inducer-free. We validated the functional performance of our developed CRISPRi system in clinical isolate S. aureus USA 300 LAC to ensure its feasibility.

Our study presents a general approach to using promoters of bacterial virulence genes to activate CRISPRi by expressing dCas9 in various bacterial species. Our developed inducer-free, GFP-labelled CRISPRi tool aids label target gene knockdown bacterial population in the host interface for a better understanding of the pathogenesis mechanism.

Biography

I finished my PhD at 30 years old from Yamaguchi University, Japan, and currently working as a postdoctoral fellow researcher at UiT- The Arctic University of Norway. My research is mainly focused on studying the bacterial pathogenesis mechanism in the host interface for the development of novel antimicrobial strategies.



Sumaiya Al Amri

Oman medical colleague, Oman / King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

Prevalence and Associated Factors of Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 Among Tuberculosis Patients in Muscat, Oman, 2017-2020

Abstract

Diabetes mellitus (DM) and tuberculosis (TB) are global public health concerns and leading causes of mortality and morbidity worldwide. Coinfection is known to complicate TB control and outcomes. However, there is no national study regarding the prevalence of DM among TB patients in Oman. The objective of the current study was to assess the prevalence of DM and its associated factors among TB patients in Muscat, Oman. We conducted an analytical cross-sectional study using secondary data from the electronic system of the Ministry of Health (Al-Shifa 3+). It includes all adult TB patients in Muscat, from 2017-2020. Sociodemographic data, clinical characteristics, and comorbidities of TB patients were collected. SPSS with 95% CI and p -value ≤ 0.05 was used for statistical analysis. Of 426 TB cases, the prevalence of DM was 27.0%. The associated factors of DM were age group 40-54 years (odds ratio (OR) = 9.08, 95% CI: 4.16-19.84) and ≥ 55 years (OR = 11.35, 95% CI: 5.19-24.82), male (OR = 2.35, 95% CI: 1.45-3.81), being married (OR = 13.18, 95% CI: 4.72-36.84), being employed (OR = 2.30, 95% CI: 1.19-4.47), and Bangladeshi (OR = 7.08, 95% CI: 2.50-20.12) or Indian (OR = 6.14, 95% CI: 2.40-15.70) nationality. The absence of Bacillus Calmette-Guérin scar (OR = 2.06, 95% CI: 1.19-3.56), death (OR = 7.08, 95% CI: 1.26-7.82), and cured after TB treatment (OR = 3.02, 95% CI: 1.71-5.31) showed significant association. Also, smoking (OR = 2.93, 95% CI: 1.81-4.76), drinking alcohol (OR = 1.79, 95% CI: 1.10-2.91), hypertension (OR = 10.45, 95% CI: 5.29-20.64), heart disease (OR = 8.50, 95% CI: 1.69-42.77), and renal disease (OR = 4.84, 95% CI: 1.71-13.64) contributed to the study's comorbidities. Old age (adjusted OR = 2.30, 95% CI: 1.72-3.06) and hypertension (adjusted OR = 5.21, 95% CI: 2.28-11.87) were found to be predictors of DM among TB patients. The prevalence of DM among TB patients in Muscat is high. Integrated systematic bidirectional TB-DM screening is needed. Furthermore, special

attention is required for associated factors when managing these comorbidities.

Biography

Dr. Sumaiya Al Amri from Sultanate of Oman finished her master's degree in field epidemiology program at 33-year-old from King Saud University School of Medicine. She was the chief resident her batch .She finished her MD degree since 2014. She worked in health education and awareness programs departement in the ministry of health for 4 years prior to the Master degree. Simultaneously served as a general practitioner in local health center. She published 5 papers since graduated from field epidemiology training program. Currently working in Directorate General Disease Surveillance and Control (Department of Surveillance): where she implemented effective surveillance strategies, contributed to disease control and prevention, contributed to all disease notifications and managements had participated in oral presentation with TEPHENT in 2022 in Panama City. Also, participated in an oral presentation in the first primary health Muscat symposium. Had participated in many national and international conferences and workshops with experience exchanges.



Tal Arazi Kleinman

Shamir Medical Center, Be'er Ya'akov, Israel

Breast Cancer presentation in Arab women in a mixed Arab and Jewish Breast Cancer Referral Center in Israel

Abstract

Purpose: Our Breast Cancer Centre is a referral for patients from surrounding communities with mixed Arab and Jewish population. We aimed to characterize breast cancer tumors at diagnosis for both populations.

Methods: Review of breast cancer disease characteristics, stage and demographics at diagnosis in women referred to our institution between 2000-2020 was preformed and analyzed.

Results: 3850 women treated at our breast cancer center between 2000 and 2020, 123 (3.2%) Arab women (AW) and 3727 (96.8A%) Jewish women (JW). AW were younger at presentation 54.3 years (range 20-90) vs 59.7 year (range 22-98) in JW. Tumor subgroups similar in both groups. Intraductal carcinoma (IDC) diagnosed in 100 (81%) AW and 2893 (78%) JW, ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) in 14 (11%) AW and 453 (12%) JW, intralobular cancer (ILC) in 9 (7%) AW and 334 (9%) JW, papillary carcinoma diagnosed only in 47 (1%) Jewish women. Tumor stage at diagnosis was higher for AW with stages 3 and 4 more prevalent in AW, 41 (33.3%) vs 711 (19%) in JW. Comparison between first (2000-2010) and second decade (2011-2020) demonstrated increase average age at diagnosis in JW (59 years vs 61.1 years) and decrease in AW (55.6 years vs. 53.8 years). Stage at diagnosis was higher in AW and slightly lower in JW in the second decade.

Conclusion: Arab women are younger at diagnosis of breast cancer with more progressive disease than Jewish women. Over the past 20 years this trend has not changed despite the initiation of the National Isreali Breast Cancer screening program in 1995.

Limitations

These results represent only one breast cancer center in Israel

Ethics committee approval

IRB received for this study
Funding for this study
No funding received for this study.

Biography

I am head of Breast Imaging Unit at Shamir Medical Center, Radiology department. Former secretary of the Israel Breast Imaging Radiologist Association and former Chair of the breast imaging committee in the Israeli Radiology Board Exams. I finished my medical degree in 1999 at Tel Aviv University School of Medicine and continued to Radiology Residency at Sheba Medical Center with a Women's Imaging Fellowship at Faculty of Medicine, Toronto University in 2006-2008.



Victoria K. Ngo, PhD

*City University of New York, Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy
Center for Innovations in Mental Health, United States*

Mental Health Integration into Primary Care in Vietnam

Abstract

Globally, we are facing a mental health crisis that been driven by a severe human resource shortages in mental health, low mental health literacy and awareness, stigma, and widening social and economic disparities, particularly for low and middle income countries (LMICs), where mental health service systems are even more underdeveloped. Mental health task sharing, a model in which mental health professionals support non mental health providers, such as healthcare and community workers to perform simplified mental health support tasks, show promise in closing these care gaps. This talk will review the decade of work in developing and evaluating the collaborative care model for depression in Vietnam. Data from three controlled trials (funded by U.S. National Institute of Mental Health and Grand Challenge of Canada) will be shared to demonstrate the effectiveness of collaborative care for depression in improving client mental health and functional outcomes. Finally lessons learned about best practices in training and implementation strategies for mental health integration into public primary care settings, and recommendations regarding the scale-up of mental health task-sharing to support the wellbeing of individuals and close mental health care gaps in low resource settings..

Biography

Victoria Ngo is an Associate Professor of Community Health and Social Sciences at the City University of New York Graduate School of Public Health & Health Policy (CUNY SPH), Director of the Center for Innovation in Mental Health at CUNY SPH, and Mental Health Director of the Center for Immigrant, Refugee and Global Health at CUNY. She also holds an Adjunct Scientist position at the RAND Corporation. Her research focuses on developing mental health interventions and implementation strategies to promote access and quality of care to ethnic minorities and underserved populations worldwide. She specializes in implementation strategies for mental health task-sharing and sustainable integration of mental health services into non-mental health settings including primary care, maternal health, HIV, cancer care, schools, and other community-based settings. She has led several NIH and Grand Challenges of Canada funded task-shifting implementation science intervention studies, including the Multi-Component Collaborative Care for Depression (MCCD), Livelihood Integration for Effective Depression Management (LIFE-DM), and currently leading a randomized controlled study of implementation strategies for depression care integration into primary care clinics in Vietnam. In addition, she serves as a Senior Technical Advisor for USAID Victims of Torture Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Trauma Impacted Communities Grant portfolio and leads an Implementation Science Collaborative for this initiative. She also works closely with the local and global government systems (New York, Los Angeles, Vietnam, Uganda, and others) to support a range of mental health interventions and initiatives for diverse communities.



Xiaoxin I Yao

Department of Orthopaedics, The Eighth Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-Sen University, China

Green space, genetic susceptibility, and risk of osteoporosis: a cohort study from the UK Biobank

Abstract

Objective

This study aimed to investigate the effect of residential exposure to green space on the incident osteoporosis and further explore the modification effect of genetic susceptibility.

Methods

Participants from the UK Biobank were followed from 2006-2010 (baseline) to December 31st, 2022. Using land use coverage, we evaluated exposure to residential surrounding green space, natural environment, and domestic gardens. We used the Cox regression to examine the association between the residential environment and incident osteoporosis. The interactive effects between polygenic risk score (PRS) of osteoporosis and residential environments on incident osteoporosis were investigated.

Results

This study included 292,662 participants. Over a median follow-up period of 13.65 years, we documented 9177 incidents of osteoporosis. Per interquartile (IQR) increase in greenness and natural environment at a 300m buffer was associated with a 4% lower risk of incident osteoporosis [HR = 0.96, 95% CI: (0.93, 0.99)] and [HR = 0.96, 95% CI (0.93, 0.98)], respectively. We did not identify any interactive effects between genetic risk and residential environment on incident osteoporosis.

Conclusions

This study found that public greenness and natural environments could reduce the risk of

incident osteoporosis regardless of genetic predisposition. Developing sustainable and publicly accessible natural environments might benefit populations' bone health.

Biography

Dr Xiaoxin Iris Yao obtained her PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics in 2019 at The University of Hong Kong and subsequently completed her postdoctoral research. She joined the Eighth Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-Sen University as an associate professor in 2020. Her research is on multivariate multilevel modelling of population well-being, leveraging population-based cohorts, e.g., UK Biobank (UK), the FAMILY Cohort (Hong Kong), and NESARC Cohort (US). Her research interests include large population cohort studies, chronic disease epidemiology, bone health, and cancer clinical research. She has experience in a range of advanced statistical and epidemiological methods. Dr Yao's work on reporting guidelines in propensity score analysis has been listed in the EQUATOR (Enhancing the QUALity and Transparency Of health Research) Network. She is an optimistic and kind person who loves to travel, likes to think, and loves life.



Chen

Wisdom Lake Academy of Pharmacy, Xi'an Jiaotong-zLiverpool University, Suzhou 215123, China

Temporal stability of species composition underpins the link between biodiversity and human health

Abstract

Biodiversity, particularly species-level variation, is an important component of complex ecosystem-human health interactions. Measuring the temporal or spatial dissimilarity in species composition can be leveraged to understand the stability of ecosystems and the corresponding effects on human health. We conducted multivariate regression analyses of nearly four hundred million bird observations and human health indicators at county level (or equivalent) in the USA, spanning from 2010 to 2019. The findings revealed a significant association between the stability of bird species composition and life expectancy. After adjusting for confounding factors, this stability could even explain more variation within life expectancy than disparities in regional species richness. Communities exposed to superior diversity patterns, embodying both a higher species richness and a more stable structure of species composition, demonstrated a longer average life expectancy, a decreased mortality rate for specific diseases (e.g., cardiovascular diseases and neoplasms), and a reduced age-specific mortality risk.

Biography

Ying is an biostatistician and epidemiologist working extensively in healthcare research. He has extensive experience in observational and experimental studies, including clinical trials. His research has been focusing on disease surveillance, disease prevention, early diagnosis and intervention, disease management, drug safety, health economic evaluation, environmental epidemiology and public health. He has a particular interest in use of big real-world database. His work uses a very broad of statistical methods, from descriptive statistics, traditional regression analyses for hypothesis testing to novel technologies for large and complex datasets. He contributes to the writing of scientific presentation, report and paper, sometimes as the leading and corresponding author of a multi-authored publication on medical/scientific journals. To date, he has published more than 70 SCI publications, many of which are in the top journals. He serves as a member of Editorial Board for Life (published by MDPI) and Scientific Reports (published by Nature Publishing Group).



Yiqing Zhu

Department of Immunization Management, Hebei Province Center for Disease Prevention and Control, Shijiazhuang 050021, China

Adverse events following immunization surveillance on two types of Enterovirus 71 vaccines: A real-world comparative study in China

Abstract

Objective To comprehensively assess the safety and difference of two types of EV71 vaccines: EV71-Vero, produced using Vero cells and EV71-H2, using human diploid cells. **Methods** Our research included children of the recommended age who voluntarily received the EV71 vaccine in Hebei Province from 2019 to 2023. Detailed data on Adverse events following immunization (AEFI) were collected, analyzed and compared for EV71-Vero and EV71-H2 vaccines. **Results** With 477 AEFI reported, the reported rate was 14.21 per 100,000 doses. Most cases occurred in infants under one year of age. No significant differences in the AEFI reported rate were found between two types of EV71 vaccines across various demographic. However, a higher number of AEFI were reported in children under one year old following EV71-Vero compared to EV71-H2 with a reversal in 4-5 years group. The prognosis of cured took higher proportion for EV71-Vero than for EV71-H2 while inversely with improved outcome. **Conclusion** The EV71 vaccine is advisable recommend to the appropriate age children to prevent EV71 infection. Both the EV71-Vero and EV71-H2 vaccines have good safety profiles. The reported AEFI, primarily high fever and allergic reactions, showed no significant differences in reported rates or case characteristics between the two types.

Biography

Yiqing Zhu finished her Master of Public Health from Shandong University. She is the associate senior doctor of Hebei CDC, a member of the Chinese Pertussis Prevention and Control Association. In recent years, she has hosted or participated in three provincial scientific research projects and published a number of high-quality academic papers in the field of vaccines, with a cumulative impact factor of more than 5 points.



Yuanyuan Wang

University of Nanjing, China

Association of Planet Healthy Diet with Risk of Mortality and Chronic Diseases

Abstract

Background:

In 2019, the EAT-Lancet Commission first proposed the Planetary Health Diet (PHD). This study aimed to examine the association between PHD and risk of mortality and major chronic disease outcomes in two cohort studies and a meta-analysis of published prospective studies, including these two studies.

Design:

Population based on cohort study and a meta-analysis.

Setting:

U.S. National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES, 1999-2018) and U.K. Biobank (UKB).

Participants:

42,947 U.S. adults aged 20 years and above and 116,174 U.K. adults aged 40 years and above.

Methods:

The PHD scores were calculated using data from 3-day 24-hour dietary recall questionnaires (ranging from 0 to 140). Multivariable Cox regression models were used to examine the association between PHD and the risk of all-cause and cause-specific mortality in both U.S. NHANES and UKB. In the meta-analysis, random effects or fixed effects models were used to calculate the pooled relative risks of PHD with health outcomes such as mortality and to

quantify the potential dose-response relationships.

Results:

In the fully adjusted model, high adherence to the PHD was associated with a reduced risk of all-cause mortality (HRQ4 vs. Q1: 0.77; 95% CI: 0.71-0.84 in NHANES; HRQ4 vs. Q1: 0.82, 95% CI: 0.76-0.88 in UKB, respectively) and heart diseases mortality (HRQ4 vs. Q1: 0.81; 95% CI: 0.66-0.98 in NHANES; HRQ4 vs. Q1: 0.77, 95% CI: 0.62-0.96 in UKB, respectively) in both NHANES and UKB. In the UKB, high adherence to the PHD was associated with a reduced risk of total cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) mortality risk, ischemic heart disease mortality, cancer mortality and respiratory diseases mortality. In the meta-analysis, high adherence to the PHD reduced the risk of cancer mortality, CVDs mortality and all-cause mortality by 13%, 20% and 16%, respectively. Besides, it can also reduce the risk of colorectal cancer, coronary heart disease (CHD) and diabetes.

Conclusion:

Our research findings reveal that adhering to PHD helps reduce the risk of mortality and colorectal cancer, CVDs, CHD, and diabetes. This discovery underscores the importance of promoting the PHD.

Biography

Dr. Yuanyuan Wang obtained his BSc in Food Hygiene and Nutrition from School of Food Science and Engineering, University of Yangzhou. He obtained his MSc and continued his doctoral studies in nutrition and food hygiene, School of public health, Southeast University. His main research interests are nutritional epidemiology, molecular epidemiology and nutrition and public health. As the first author or co-first author with supervisor, he has published 7 papers indexed in SCI. He has extensive experience in epidemiological studies and animal experiments. He is a registered member of China Nutrition Society, Jiangsu Nutrition Society and Nanjing Nutrition Society.



Yuna Seo

Tokyo University of Science, Chiba, Japan

The Impact of Social Media Usage on Frailty Among Elderly Individuals in Japan

Abstract

Many studies have examined the relationship between frailty and social connections. In our research, we focused on social media as an intervention measure for social connection. The purpose of this study is to analyze the association between social media usage and frailty. The survey targeted individuals aged 65 and over residing in Japan. We collected 500 valid responses from participants who were recruited through an online survey company and agreed to participate. The questionnaires included a frailty evaluation via the KIHON checklist, age, gender, and social media usage. Ordinal logistic regression analysis was employed to explore the relationship between social media usage and frailty. The research findings revealed that empathy is key to fostering a sense of belonging in online communities, which may further help prevent frailty. These results suggest the importance of how one engages with social media. Identifying the types and usage patterns of social media that affect frailty would be necessary by clearly defining and categorizing them.

Biography

She finished her PhD at 30 years old years from the University of Tokyo and postdoctoral investigations from AIST. She is the junior associate professor at Tokyo University of Science. She has published in 34 papers in environmental studies, resource policy, social psychology, and local communities.



Dr. Zain Gulzar

Assistant Professor/ Head of Department, Watim Dental College, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Perceived Stress and its Influence among Undergraduate Dental Students in 1 Lahore: A Cross-sectional Study

Abstract

Objectives: The main aim of this study was to quantify the perceived stress amongst the dental undergraduate students and identify the factors that influence their performance and health.

Methodology: The study involved 316 BDS students from 6 dental colleges in Lahore. The study, data entry and analysis were completed in a year. Stress was quantified using a modified Dental Environment Stress (DES) questionnaire consisting of 38 questions for the dental students.

Results: The main sources of stress in the present study were five factors: assigned workload, self-efficiency belief, faculty and administration matters, and patient treatment, followed by pressure of clinical performance. The findings were similar to different dental education systems across the world. The results of this study support the evidence in the previous literature, indicating that dental students are exposed to various work-related and academic stressors that may negatively affect their health.

Conclusion: Students have to learn a lot and develop professional expertise rapidly. Students must understand the profession's nature and the study environment before applying. Conducting entrance interviews to assess the candidates' interest and suitability is a good idea. Establishing student advisors, counselors, and a faculty advising system can provide valuable support.

Keywords: Stress, mental stress, perceived stress, undergraduate dental students.

Biography

I finished my masters in Health Professions Education from Riphah International University in year 2021. Currently, I am heading department of Medical Education at Watim Dental College Rawalpindi, Pakistan.



Zhizhuo Wang

Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, School of Health, Fujian Medical University, Fuzhou, 350122, China

Association between thyroid hormones and cognitive functioning in euthyroid elderly adults

Abstract

Background: Changes in serum thyroid hormone levels may affect cognitive function in euthyroid individuals. Although several studies have reported associations between thyroid hormone levels in the reference range and cognitive functioning in healthy elderly people, their findings are inconsistent, and few studies have focused on the US population. Therefore, this study used representative data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) to comprehensively examine the associations of thyroid hormones with different tests of cognitive functioning among US elderly people aged ≥ 60 years.

Methods: A total of 734 participants from the NHANES were included. Thyroid function was measured using competitive binding immune-enzymatic assays, while cognitive function was measured using a series of assessments, including the Consortium to Establish a Registry for Alzheimer's Disease-Word Learning (CERAD W-L), Animal Fluency Test, and Digit Symbol Substitution Test (DSST). Weighted multiple linear regression models and binary logistic regression analyses were used to examine the association between thyroid hormone levels and cognitive function. All statistical analyses were performed using SPSS version 20.0, and R software.

Results: Weighted multivariable linear regression showed that FT3 was negatively associated with the Animal Fluency Test and DSST ($\beta = -0.113$, 95% CI: -3.279, -0.803, $P = 0.001$; $\beta = -0.062$, 95% CI: -6.565, -0.470, $P = 0.024$, respectively) after adjustment for potential covariates. subgroup analysis stratified by sex revealed a negative association between FT3 levels and

the Animal Fluency Test in men ($\beta=-0.163$, 95% CI: -4.643, -1.153, $P=0.001$). For female participants, FT3 was negatively associated with not only the Animal Fluency Test but also DSST ($\beta=-0.099$, 95% CI: -3.543, -0.093, $P=0.039$; $\beta=-0.093$, 95% CI: -10.288, -1.326, $P=0.011$). Binary logistic regression showed that the significantly increased adjusted odds ratios (aORs) (95% CI) between the risk of impaired cognitive functioning and FT3 across Q3 and Q4 compared with Q1 were 2.025 (1.092, 3.753) and 2.365 (1.261, 4.433), respectively, for DSST in overall participants. Furthermore, there were significant differences between participants with and without impaired cognitive functioning for serum FT3 levels in overall participants based on DSST score ($P=0.020$).

Conclusion: There was a significant inverse relationship between FT3 levels within the normal range and cognitive function after adjusting for potential covariates. Future longitudinal cohort studies should be conducted to determine the causal relationship between thyroid hormone levels and cognitive function.

Biography

He finished his OTD at 25 years old years from University of Southern California. Currently, he is the lecturer of Fujian Medical University. He has published in excess of 7 papers in Chinese and international journals.



Ahad Khalid AlOrayir

King Saud University, Saudi arabia

Family caregiver burden of elderly patients with cultural correlates: A systematic review

Abstract

The elderly eventually need caregiving, and the role for this has been more often than not fulfilled by family members. This can be attributed to numerous factors, from financial constraints to lack of trust in others, or religious/cultural reasons. The purpose of this study is to review all current literature to find how cultural differences can impact caregiving concerning the burden perceived by the caregiver.

STUDY DESIGN: Systematic review

METHODS: Following PRISMA guidelines, a search was done using specific keywords such as “family”, “caregiver”, and “burden” from the databases of MEDLINE, Cochrane, and Pedro. The data items included a measure of burden with mention of scale used, stressors or factors along with their scales used, and cultural correlates of caregiver burden.

RESULTS: Most of the family caregivers were elder daughters around the age range of 40-60 looking after their parents. The most common scale used to measure burden was the ZBI, followed by CBI, then CSI. The stressors that aggravated the burden were health-related disabilities of the elderly, and this was often measured using scales such as ADL or IADL. Eastern societies, and even immigrants from the eastern nations, followed filial obligation and teachings such as Confucianism which stressed the importance of family care. These same individuals either experienced more burden or less burden, and the exact cause was not determined, but multiple factors were given including personal health of the caregiver, marriage status, and sense of obligation.

CONCLUSION: Obligation to the family is still present in much of the eastern hemisphere of the world, but it does not explain why different ethnicities that share similar beliefs and cultures experience different rates of burden. All the factors which affect burden have not been completely elucidated yet, and more research is required into determining how the different cultures are influenced by the multitude of factors related to caregiving.

Biography

Ahad AlOrayir is a dedicated Family Medicine Consultant, graduating from King Saud University Medical City in 2019. Passionate about providing holistic care, she obtained her fellowship certification in Palliative Care Medicine from the National Guard Hospital in Riyadh in 2023. With a commitment to improving healthcare outcomes, Ahad currently serves in the Saudi Ministry of Health, where she continues to make a difference in patient-centered care. Her academic background, coupled with her hands-on experience, showcases her expertise in primary care and palliative medicine. A compassionate healthcare professional, Ahad AlOrayir is known for her unwavering dedication to enhancing the well-being of her patients and her contributions to the healthcare landscape in Saudi Arabia.



AUGUSTINA DECHEGME ACHIGIBAH

Department of Work and Social Psychology, Maastricht University, Netherlands

The end point of it is abstinence: A qualitative analysis of underlying factors influencing Christian leaders' adoption and implementation of sex and sexuality education in Bolgatanga, Ghana

Abstract

Adolescents' sexual and reproductive health challenges are of global public health concern and good quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) education has an important role to play in addressing these negative sexual health outcomes. Yet in most Sub-Saharan African countries including Ghana, there is limited implementation of SRH education. Several environmental factors hinder the implementation of SRH education with the attitudes expressed by religious leaders having a major impact. We conducted semi-structured interviews with 15 Christian leaders in Bolgatanga, Ghana, to explore the factors influencing their decision to adopt and implement SRH education in Bolgatanga. Findings show that although Christian leaders were aware of the (unsafe) sexual practices among adolescents, they held a conservative position on SRH education. While leaders were open to educating adolescents about sexual health, most held the opinion that SRH education for adolescents should be limited to abstinence-only messages and not acknowledge sexual activity or promote contraceptive use. Beliefs related to sexual morality, the perceived cause(s) of teenage pregnancy, and perceived responsibility for SRH education influenced Christian leaders' thinking about SRH education. Implementing SRH education programmes to address young people's sexual behaviour will require intervention programmes to change Christian leaders' beliefs and attitudes towards SRH education.

Biography

Augustina is a PhD student with the department of Work and Social Psychology, Maastricht University, Netherlands. She also has 7 years of designing and implementing interventions targeted at improving the sexual and reproductive health of young people in Ghana. She currently works as a Programme Manager with the Youth Harvest Foundation Ghana.



Dennis Kai Ming Ip

The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China

Community Daily Antigen Rapid Testing Surveillance (DARTS) system for situational assessment of SARS-CoV-2 infection

Abstract

Background

With the cease of mandatory reporting and community testing, PCR-confirmed case counts serve poorly as a surveillance data for a representative disease activity of COVID-19. We reported a large-scale ad-hoc community surveillance initiative, Daily Antigen Rapid Testing Surveillance (DARTS) System, using self-performed rapid antigen tests (RAT).

Methods

A representative cohort of 10000+ participants was enrolled and being divided into 7 sub-cohorts to achieve a rolling testing schedule with 1400+ individuals on a daily basis. Participants performed the RAT regularly irrespective of symptom or exposure history. RAT results and photos were reported on the same day of testing through an online platform. Daily point prevalence was disseminated on a real-time dashboard to inform the situation awareness (<https://covid19.sph.hku.hk/dashboard>).

Results

Since its launch in March 2022, the system has tracked the changing trajectory of different phases of the Omicron pandemic, including the rapidly subsiding phase of BA.2 wave from an initial high daily prevalence of 12.7% in early March to a non-zero baseline (0.1-0.3%) over May; and alerted the subsequent BA.5 wave over December (1.1-5.7%), XBB wave (peaked with 7.7%) in May 2023 and JN.1 in February 2024 (3.3%). The reproductive number

basing on our RAT data was 1.13 (1.10,1.16) in December 2022 (BA.5 wave), and 1.2 in May 2023 (XBB wave), signifying the changing transmissibility of these Omicron variants in the community.

Conclusions

Our DARTS system has demonstrated the feasibility of a participatory surveillance system using self-performed RAT, and its utility as a surveillance to timely reflect the epidemic trajectory during different stages of the pandemic and over the transition to endemicity. Regular testing helps to give a more representative picture, including the detection of subclinical cases who carried an implication of disease transmission. The use of RAT also helps to avoid the constraint of manpower and testing capacity, and has empowered the general public to self-perform rapid test in home settings.

Biography

Dennis Ip is currently a Clinical Associate Professor and Division Head of the Division of Community Medicine and Public Health Practice in the School of Public Health, The University of Hong Kong. He obtained his medical training from the University of Hong Kong. He received postgraduate training in Infectious Disease, Travel Medicine, Epidemiology, Statistics and Applied Mathematics, and obtained his MD degree in 2017. He underwent specialty training in Public Health in Hong Kong, and was trained in Public Health Genomics as a Visiting Fellow at Hughes Hall and the PHG Foundation of University of Cambridge. He is a founder member of the Faculty of Travel Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, a fellow of the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine and its Faculty of Travel Medicine, and a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society. His research work focuses on generating scientific knowledge for informing evidence-based clinical and public health practices in the preparedness and mitigation of influenza and SARS-CoV-2 epidemics and pandemics.



Hameni. Nkwayep

University of Douala, Cameroon

Interval estimation of cholera cases and impact of intervention strategies in Cameroon

Abstract

This work is devoted to the interval observer with non-linear output and the problem of optimal control of cholera disease. With the real data of cholera cases, forecasts have been done to see how cholera would involve in Cameroon from April 2023 to 2027 when optimal strategies against cholera are available. To do this, we estimate the state variables and fit data since with an upper and lower bound value at each time. After, we gave the boundedness reconstruction of newly and active cases of asymptomatic and symptomatic who remained undetected by healthcare staff of Cameroon. Indeed, it appeared that always 10% of cases are detected and that the majority of cases developed symptoms, but remained undetected. So, it is possible that the number of active undetected cases attained more than 27 000 at the peak in 2014, 13 000 in 2018, 20 000 between 2018 and 2019 and more than 78 000 case in 2022. Thus, these undetected cases need to be detected at time if healthcare keeps up the speed of awareness campaign in Cameroon. The prevision showed that the absence of cholera at some period or the few reported cases at their difference outbreak is done to more efforts have been done to either to reduce or avoid cholera outbreak. But need to be accentuate to eradicate in Cameroon. Finally, the application of optimal control answered to how one should accentuate fitting strategies against cholera to eradicate its before 2027 with available coasts. For this, we could insist on the limitation of contact at the beginning of raining season and also at its end. Also, sanitation and rapid detection are needed to limit recruitment of newly *Vibrio cholerae* in the environment by infected individuals which are hyper-infectious during their first 24 hours of live out of human hosts.

Biography

Currently in the final stages of defending my Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics on Life Sciences at the University of Douala and expecting to graduate in July 2024, he has an extensive experience in mathematical modelling and parameter-state estimations. He is particularly excited about the opportunity to integrate my knowledge into sustainable development through epidemiology researches. He has Published 4 papers in international and high reviews on COVID- 19, Cholera and Swine fever.



Hein Minn Tun

Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei

Health Economics Evaluation of Artificial Intelligence in the field of Oncology: A Scoping review

Abstract

The ageing and growing populations, increased rates of illness such as cancer along an increase in the number of patients using healthcare services contribute to the rising cost of medical care. The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into oncology is revolutionizing cancer diagnosis, treatment, and management, promising enhanced efficiency and precision. Furthermore, AI could reduce estimated healthcare costs by 5 -10 per cent each year in the US but AI integration depends on buy-in from stakeholders especially physicians who utilize the system. This scoping review aimed to systematically evaluate recent health economic evaluations (HEEs) of artificial intelligence (AI) applications specifically in oncology. A scoping literature review was conducted using PRISMA-ScR guidelines from multiple databases, including PubMed and Scopus, Google scholar for articles published in the last five years. Two reviewers independently screened, included full texts, extracted data, and appraised the studies. The quality assessment of the studies included was performed using the Consolidated Health Economic Evaluation Reporting Standards artificial Intelligence (CHEERS -AI) and the Philips checklist. Additionally, economic risk and benefit analysis on the scoping review was conducted. Preliminary findings identified 870 studies, with 18 selected for full-text review, focusing on various oncology care pathways. Automated medical image analysis was the most common AI application (n = 13). The scoping review articles highlight AI's economic benefits in oncology, such as increased sensitivity, lower costs, streamlined workflows, reduced workload, fewer recall appointments, optimized treatment, and enhanced patient outcomes, all contributing to cost savings. It also addresses economic risks, including uncertainties around AI reimbursement, the need for long-term validation, data security concerns, and potential costs of errors in AI models. The scoping review highlighted AI's

significant potential to enhance efficiency and precision in oncology especially in the field of automated image analysis while potentially reducing healthcare. To maximize its benefits, it is crucial to address reimbursement issues, ensure ongoing validation, and enhance data security and model accuracy.

Biography

Dr. Hein Minn Tun is a dedicated medical professional with a strong background in public health research and program management. With extensive experience working with vulnerable communities, including those affected by conflict in Myanmar, he has demonstrated a commitment to improving healthcare access and outcomes for underserved populations and currently conducting research on artificial intelligence integration in the public health sector at the Universiti of Brunei Darussalam (UBD). Dr Tun has published 1 paper on the topic of telemedicine in healthcare and two papers in the process of paper publication which focus on the governance and usage of artificial intelligence in healthcare focus on the ASEAN region.