

43. EMERGING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE OF COVID-19 IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Today Indian health care system is in pathetic condition, its needs radical reforms to deal with new emerging challenges and issues. COVID-19 is spreading really fast around the world. The Indian government facing the problem of lack of resources and infrastructure facilities, there are insufficient number of beds, rooms, ventilators and medicines. Public health is the practice of preventing disease and promoting good health within groups of people, from small communities to entire countries. The countries concentration has been focused on the crucial need for a strong public health infrastructure to protect community health. The current study describes the situation of the outbreak of this pandemic in India. The study also discusses the availability of public health infrastructure facilities in virus infected peoples. Public health organizations at the federal, state, tribal, local are taking steps to increase effectiveness and efficiency through its National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHLL), the centers for disease control and prevention supports improvements in 74 state, local and territorial health departments systems, practices, and essential services. COVID pandemic has considerably undermined the

accessibility and availability of essential health services. A good health infrastructure also guarantees a country of strong and healthy way to living as well as happy life.

INTRODUCTION

"There is an urgent need to invest in public health to strengthen our health systems for rapid response while ensuring long term preparedness"- Neeraj jain(India country director) Public health is the protecting and improving the health of entire populations. Infrastructure is the life line of all countries to enhancement of Public health. Its provides communities,states,and the country the capacity to prevent infection, promot health and prepare for the respond both emergency threats and chronic challenges to health. Infrastructure is the foundation for evaluating,delivering,planning and getting better to public health. In world wide everyone rely on public health infrastructure to keeps us healthy. According to the central government said that it has identified and set up sufficient health infrastructure and available for covid19 case management are categorized into three main categories.Dedicated COVID Hospital (DCH), Dedicated COVID Health Centre (DCHC), Dedicated COVID

Care Centre (DCCC) The DCH that is the first category, offer comprehensive care primarily for those who have been clinically assigned as severe. The second category DCHC offer care for all cases that have been clinically assigned as moderate. While the third category that is DCCC, offers care only for cases that have been clinically assigned as mild or very mild cases or COVID suspect cases. (Health world).

A good public health infrastructure also requires a various network of skilled health care professionals from doctors and nurses, to researchers and policy makers there are many different types of professionals who are required to advance community health goals. public health agencies play an important role in public health infrastructure. Local health departments are the front line for delivering essential public health system. Their success requires an immense agreement of coordination with state health departments and federal public health agencies, such as the National Institutes Of Health (NIH) and Centers For Disease Control And Prevention (CDC).

IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Public health aims to improve the quality of life through prevention and treatment of disease. The entire public health services depend on the existence of fundamental infrastructure and its important indicator for understanding the health care policy and welfare instrument in a country. An efficient public health organization that can assure the nation's health requires the collaborative efforts of a complex system of people and organizations in the public and private sectors, as well as an alignment of policy and practice of government public health agencies at the national, state, and local levels.

- √ detector of health status to identify and solve community health problems.

- √ detect and investigate health inconvenience and health hazards in the society.

- √ update, train and empower people about health issues

- √ Mobilize society collaboration and action to identify and solve health problems.

- √ Health policies and plans support to individual and society health efforts.

- √ Implement rules and regulations that protect health and ensure protection.

- √ Everyone need to basic infrastructure facilities and assure that provision of health care services in rural areas.

- √ Ensure proficient public and private health care workforces.

- √ Evaluate efficiency, accessibility and superiority of personal and population based health services.

- √ Investigate for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

EMERGING ISSUES (COVID) IN PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Coronavirus pandemic has exposed India's under-preparedness in terms of health infrastructure. Government announced plans to ramp up health and wellness centres in rural and urban areas. It also said that increase investment in public health. developed or underdeveloped, rich or poor, all countries affected this pandemic. Almost COVID reached the community spread phase. India's healthcare infrastructure is incompetent of dealing with this crisis today. However Indian health care system are facing these challenges shortages in medical provisions and difficulty stopping its spread in different magnitudes.

Prime minister announced to allocate 15,000 crore rupees for building infrastructure can strengthen the fight against COVID and state government also trying to expand infrastructure facilities to deal with this pandemic

situation. In India there is a major shortage in the availability of beds in the hospitals.

Health infrastructure is creaking at this stage of the pandemic because of mismanagement, unprofessional planning, greed of private health institutions and unjustified fear. In India health care services is concentrated in urban areas. Majority of private hospitals in rural areas have either stopped giving services health services for covid-19 patients or extorting huge money. India prepare for a larger number of people needing hospitalisation. It needs to gear up its testing facilities and number of beds to deal with pandemics. According to the World Bank, good governance for health requires a change in minds and policy by bringing health system reforms. There is no doubt, India needs to spend more but we also need an action plan, a strategy to deal with the crisis.

LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE

In India, more than 80 percent of the entire population still does not have any fundamental health insurance coverage. Health insurance is being emphasized during this pandemic. It is important as the insurance regulators in India had made it clear that any hospitalization case due to COVID would need to be covered under health insurance that covered admission to any given hospital. This clearly meant that individuals who tested positive and were undergoing treatment at a hospital would be eligible to get claims under their policy.

LACK OF HOSPITAL FACILITIES

In our country during this epidemic period hospital and health care facilities are inadequate.

LACK OF DOCTORS AND NURSES

National Health profile data-2018 shows shortage of close to 4 lakh doctors and 30 lakh nurses. The situation is much worse in during this pandemic period. In this current scenario, India has one doctor for every 1,445 citizens. WHO's

prescribed norm of one doctor for a batch of 1,000 people. And it has only 1.7% nurses per 1,000 people.

LACK OF BEDS

In India, there is a huge shortage in the availability of beds in covid19 assigned hospitals. According to Raghuram Rajan commission states wise, Bihar has 0.12 beds per thousand people. It is the state with the fewest beds per person. And Odisha which is the poorest state of India has 0.38 beds per thousand people. Manipur and Assam have 0.48 and 0.32 beds per 1000 people, whereas other states of northeast India and south India have a better capacity to serve its patients. Their statistics are near to or above the national average.

LACK OF VENTILATORS

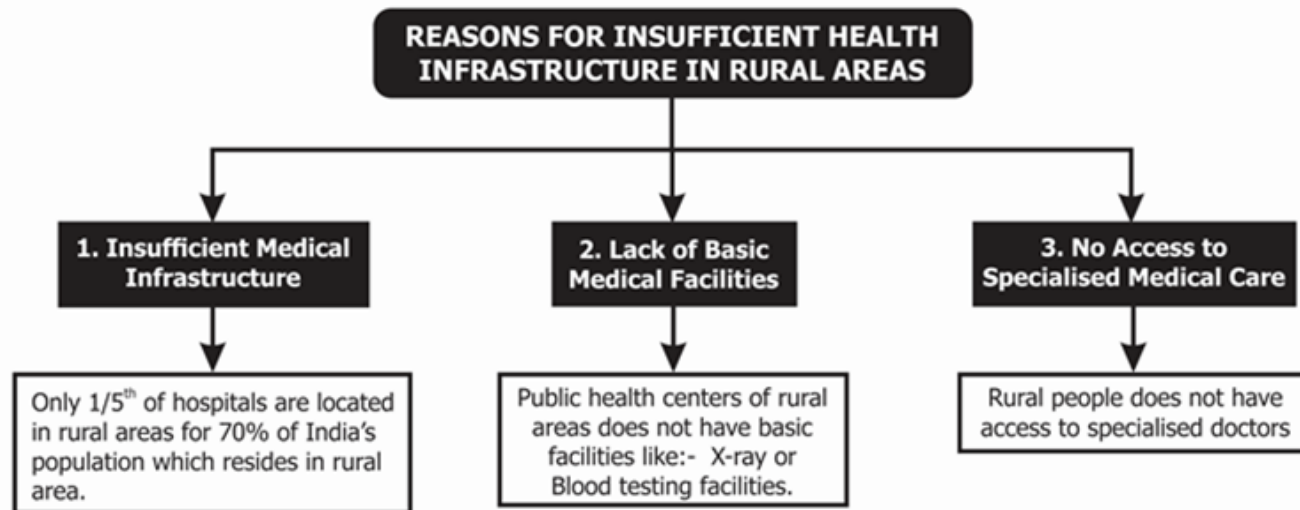
A ventilator is a mechanical breathing medical equipment that can blow oxygen and air into the lungs. Ventilators are critical for the care of people with a lung infection. Lack of ventilators in hospitals is one of the major complications suffered by patients with severe COVID-19 infection. The number of ventilators available in the country is about 57,000 devices. But most of the ventilators cannot be used by covid patients. Experts say we have to struggle more if infected patients surge in the upcoming days because 3% covid patients would require ventilators. The scarcity of these resources has weakened the Indian health care infrastructure, even more, leading to a rapid increase in covid cases throughout the country. Following the development of these concepts, researchers set out to evaluate the public health infrastructure using specific indicators to assess the performance of essential public health services by local or state health systems.

ADEQUATE PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DURING (COVID-19)

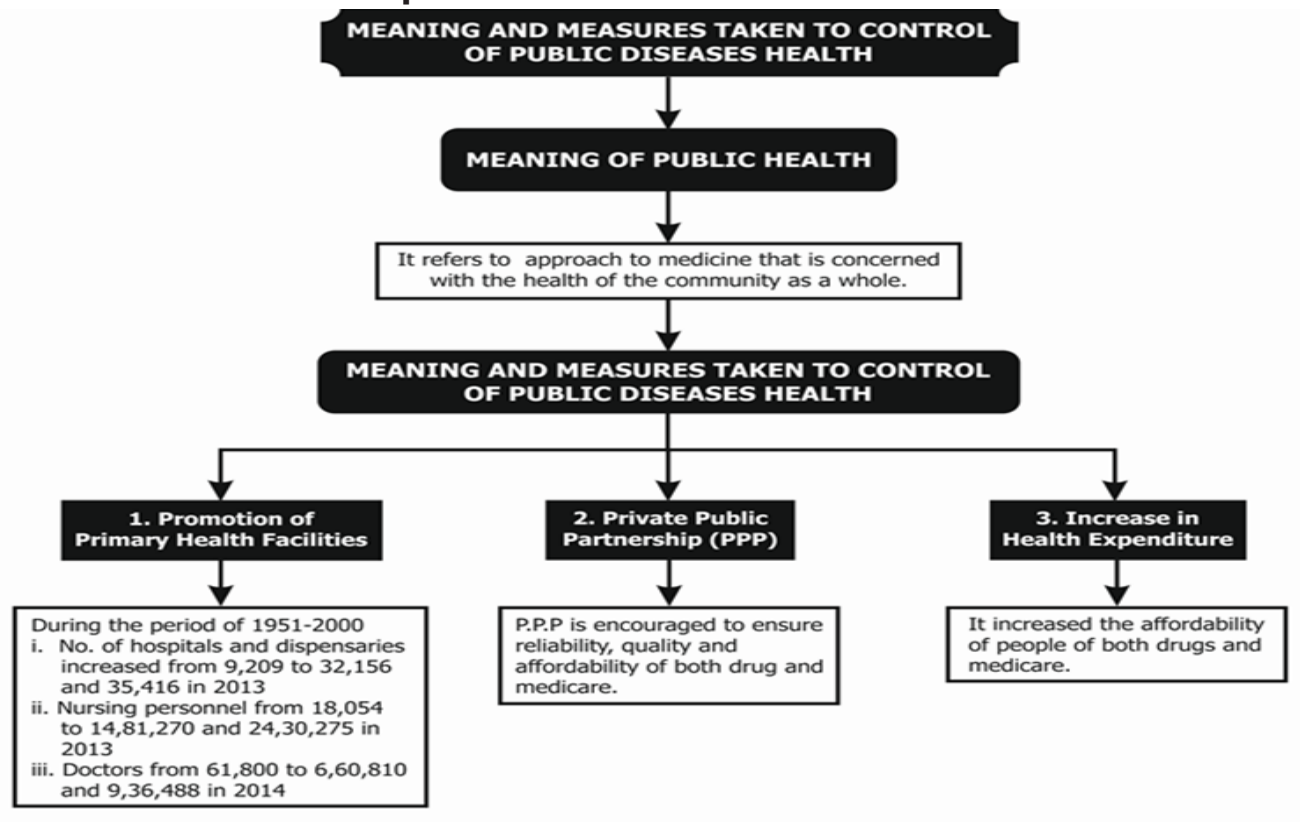
India health care system is declining day to day, and with huge populations of 1.3 billion. It won't be able to cope

with the pandemic if the system is not revamped. India's debilitated health care infrastructure is in many ways disadvantaged to deal with this pandemic. So straight actions need to be taken by policymakers to address the underlying issues. Universal health coverage (UHC) BY 2030 In sustainable development goals it means to ensure that all people and communities could access promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative health services of assured quality.

Reason for Insufficient Health



Measures to control of public health



Source : bujus's.com

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