

# IIPHG NEWSLETTER

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## From the Director's Desk

Dear Students, Faculty, Well-wishers, and Friends of IIPHG,

I am delighted to share the latest edition of the IIPHG Newsletter. This quarter has been remarkable, showcasing the outstanding efforts of our faculty, students, and staff in advancing public health education and research. Key highlights include the 31st Annual State Conference of the IAPSM-Gujarat Chapter, the 13th Annual Conference of the IPHA-Gujarat Chapter, and the 7th Annual Conclave of Public Health & Hospital Administration (ACIES 2024). We also organized specialized training programs for Medical Officers from Coal India, Nursing Faculty from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, and leadership training for Senior Health Officials from the Government of Gujarat. Additionally, the Certificate Course on Strategic HTA under the ITEC program of the Ministry of External Affairs was successfully conducted, welcoming delegates from 15 countries with diplomatic ties to India. Alongside these, numerous activities under ongoing research projects and regular academic, co-curricular, and extracurricular initiatives were accomplished. A testament to our achievement is being honoured with a prestigious 5-star rating under the GSIRF ranking.

Wish you happy reading.

Warm Regards,  
Prof. Deepak Saxena



## Editorial

### Advisors

Prof. Deepak Saxena - Director, IIPHG

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Dr. Shalu Chaudhary - Assistant Professor, IIPHG

### Editorial Assistant

Dr. Kesha Joshi - Consultant Research Officer, IIPHG



## A proud moment for IIPHG !

IIPHG has been honoured with a prestigious 5-Star Rating under the GSIRF Rankings in Research Category!



## Highlights

### HTA-RRC at IIPHG is recognized as the Best Emerging Resource Centre on Health Technology Assessment of India!



This prestigious honor was awarded during the DHR-ICMR Health Research Excellence Summit 2024, held as part of ICMR's 113th Foundation Day celebrations, on November 14, 2024.

The event was graced by Smt. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, who highlighted the importance of such initiatives in advancing healthcare systems.

### IIPHG recognized in India TB Report 2024



Table 12.1: Partners collaborating with the NTEP

S. no.	Name of the partners
1	Management Sciences for Health
2	REACH (Resource Group for Education and Advocacy for Community Health)
3	PATH
4	Global Health Strategies
5	William J Clinton Foundation
6	KHPT
7	Praram Swasthya
8	World Health Partners
9	Jhpiego
10	TIFA (Tuberculosis Implementation Framework Agreement)
11	IQVIA
12	PHFI (Public Health Foundation of India)
13	SAMS (Strategic Alliance Management Service)
14	SAATHI
15	Wadhvani AI
16	IIPH Gandhinagar
17	FIND India
18	CETI (Collaborate to Eliminate Tuberculosis in India)
19	HLFFPT
20	SPYM
21	IPE Global
22	Doctors for You

IIPHG is proud to be recognized as a key partner in the India TB Report 2024, collaborating with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP). Our contributions include supporting the TB Death Surveillance and Response System (TB-DSR) and conducting an interim assessment of the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (PMTBMBA).

### 8th Annual Convocation



IIPHG is proud to host the 8th Annual Convocation ceremony, held on December 1st, 2024, to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our graduates from the Master of Public Health (MPH) and Master of Hospital Administration (MHA) programs.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Batch of 2022-24 for their dedication and perseverance. We are confident that they will continue to excel in their fields, creating a lasting impact in public health, hospital administration, and beyond.



## Highlights

### 31st Annual State Conference of IAPSM-Gujarat Chapter and 13th Annual Conference of IPHA-Gujarat Chapter and 7th Annual Conclave of Public Health & Hospital Administration (ACIES 2024 ) was successfully concluded



31st Annual State Conference of Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine-GC and 13th Annual Conference of Indian Public Health Association-GC and ACIES 2024 -7th Annual Conclave of Public Health & Hospital Administration on Synergy towards Resilient Healthcare System, organized on 29th and 30th November and 1st December 2024, was a remarkable gathering of public health professionals, policymakers, and academicians. Themed “Building Synergy for a Resilient Healthcare System,” the event brought together 645 participants, including 40 distinguished speakers and experts, to discuss and strategize for a stronger global healthcare system.

#### Keynote Orations and Plenaries:

Renowned experts delivered thought-provoking addresses, including the NINAD and PARAM Orations and plenaries on critical topics such as health system strengthening, climate-resilient healthcare, preventive health synergies, and emerging trends in hospital operations.

#### Scientific Engagements:

The conclave featured scientific paper & poster presentations, quiz competitions, and a Model G20 Summit, showcasing knowledge, skills, and cutting-edge research.

#### Career Talk, Cultural, and Valedictory Events:

Attendees participated in career talks, networking sessions, and the ACIES Velocity event, a platform for rapid innovation pitches. Evenings came alive with a cultural evening, DJ night, and a gala dinner, fostering camaraderie and celebration.

#### Winners of competitions organized by the 31st IAPSM-GC team and ACIES 2024

- **HM Patel Best Paper Award:** Dr. Saily Surti, Department of PSM, PIMSR, Parul University, Vadodara
- **Quiz Competition on Public Health**  
Winners: IIPHG Team - Dr Meghal Shah, Akanksha Singh
- **Quiz Competition on Hospital Administration**  
Winners: Dr. Parth Pal & Avantika Basliyal, IIPHG
- **Poster Competition**  
Winner: Dr. Tekchand Dogra, PIPH, Parul University, Vadodara

Congratulations to all the winners and participants!

## Highlights

### IIPHG hosted International HTA course under ITEC programme



IIPHG successfully hosted the international course on "Strategic Approaches for Health Technology Assessment" from December 2nd to 15th, 2024, under the esteemed Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme. This two-week program brought together a diverse group of healthcare professionals, policymakers, and decision-makers from across the globe with the aim of enhancing their capacity in making informed decisions regarding health technologies.

Distinguished guests, Ms. Anu Nagar, Joint Secretary of the Department of Health Research, and Shri Viraj Singh (IFS), Additional Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, graced the occasion with their insightful addresses. Their valuable perspectives provided crucial guidance on advancing health policy and fostering global collaboration to strengthen healthcare systems worldwide.

### Shri Mulubhai Bera visited Bhanvad CMTC

IIPHG had the honor of welcoming Shri Mulubhai Bera, MLA of Khambhalia, to the Bhanvad Child Malnutrition Treatment Centre (CMTC) on October 10, 2024. During his visit, he reviewed the CMTC operations and the treatment methods offered to beneficiaries. He also interacted with the beneficiaries, learning about the positive impact the treatment has had on their health.

He praised the efforts of the Center of Excellence in Nutrition (CoEN) - Project Tushti at IIPHG, supported by Nayara Energy Ltd., for its significant contributions to improving child nutrition and health outcomes.



### Mentorship at SARANSH workshop



IIPHG faculties Dr. Apurvakumar Pandya and Dr. Shalu Chaudhary were invited as mentors at the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Department of Health Research (DHR) supported **SARANSH** workshop from Oct 14-19, 2024, organized by AIIMS Jodhpur.

The workshop aimed to build faculty and medical professionals' capacity in systematic reviews, with mentors enhancing skills for high-quality evidence-based healthcare research.



## Highlights

### IIPHG at Sneh Shilp Startup Fest 2.0



IIPHG is proud to have participated as an ecosystem partner in the Sneh Shilp Startup Fest 2.0. A special thank you to the Sneh Shilp Foundation for recognizing and felicitating IIPHG NIDHI TBI for our contributions in supporting and managing this remarkable event.

### Inspiring future innovators



IIPHG NIDHI-TBI CEO, Mr. Mahendra Chaudhari, shared an inspiring vision for higher education in a recent publication by Symbiosis University of Applied Sciences. He emphasized that education should focus on nurturing problem-solvers, students and innovators to dream big and transform them into reality for a brighter future.

### Skill enhancement program for nursing professionals



IIPHG successfully completed one-week Skill Enhancement Program for Nursing Professionals from the Directorate of Public Health & Medical Education, Madhya Pradesh (Nov 18-22, 2024). The program focused on nursing administration and soft skills for patient-centered care. Total 32 faculties from Govt. Nursing Colleges participated in the program. The program was led by IIPHG faculties, Dr. Apurvakumar Pandya, Dr. Medha Wadhwa and Dr. Shabana Khan.



### Two-day session on fundamentals of epidemiology & biostatistics, IIM Bodhgaya



IIPHG, represented by Dr. Deepak B. Saxena and Dr. S. Yasobant, conducted a dynamic two-day session (9th-10th Nov 2024) at IIM Bodhgaya, focusing on foundational epidemiology and biostatistics. The event featured interactive lectures, hands-on training, and real-world applications, empowering students with essential skills to address global health challenges.

## Highlights

### Stakeholder consultation for Varanasi's Heat Action Plan



IIPHG, in collaboration with Dr. Sandul Yasobant, Dr. Yamini Saini, NRDC, the Varanasi Development Authority (VDA), Varanasi Municipal Corporation (VMC), and UP Health and Family Welfare Dept (UP H&FW), organized a stakeholder consultation on November 12, 2024. The consultation focused on developing a city-specific Heat Action Plan (HAP) to mitigate heat stress impacts, particularly on vulnerable populations, and to enhance Varanasi's resilience to extreme heat events.

### 8th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (HSR2024) held in Nagasaki, Japan



IIPHG, represented by Dr. S. Yasobant, had an enriching experience at the 8th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (HSR2024) in Nagasaki, Japan. During the GLOHRA session, "Fostering Interdisciplinary Research through Innovative Capacity-Building and Funding Models," Dr. Yasobant gained valuable insights, made new connections, and engaged in professional networking throughout the five-packed days of the symposium.

### Strengthening global partnerships at Copenhagen University, Denmark



IIPHG, represented by Dr. Deepak B. Saxena and Dr. S. Yasobant, participated in the One Health Exchange Program at Copenhagen University, Denmark, from December 9th to 13th, 2024. The program facilitated discussions on interdisciplinary strategies for tackling One Health challenges and promoting innovative public health solutions. It strengthened the partnership between IIPHG and Copenhagen University, highlighting their shared commitment to advancing public health through research and collaboration.

### Expert consultation on learning resource package for priority zoonotic diseases



IIPHG, represented by Dr. S. Yasobant, participated in the Expert Consultation on developing a Learning Resource Package for Priority Zoonotic Diseases, organized by the Centre for One Health at NCDC, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, in Delhi on 3rd-4th October 2024. The event led to a consensus on the critical resource materials. Thanks to NCDC, JHPIEGO, and USAID for their support in facilitating this initiative.



## Highlights

### Workshop on 'Localised Climate Action' state-level case studies



Dr. Komal Shah and Dr. Medha Wadhwa from IIPHG were invited as resource faculties for the Research Methodology Workshop held at AFMC, Pune, from September 24–26, 2024 as a part of ICMR-CCoE activity. Dr. Komal Shah led sessions on framing research questions, reviewing literature, and research study designs, and facilitated critical evaluation of journal articles. Dr. Medha Wadhwa conducted sessions on research dissemination, manuscript writing, and shared valuable insights into ethics in research. Their expertise significantly enriched the workshop, fostering robust discussions and skill-building among participants.

### Workshop on 'Localised Climate Action' state-level case studies



IIPHG, represented by Dr. Shailee Patil, Project Coordinator at COHERD, presented the poster 'Ahmedabad Heat Action Plan: Journey of a Decade' at the Writer's Workshop on Localized Climate Action in New Delhi on 28th-29th November 2024. Under the guidance of Dr. S. Yasobant, Dr. Patil showcased the plan's transformation. Ms. Khushi Sharma, Research Assistant at COHERD, also contributed to the discussions, highlighting their collaborative efforts in advancing climate resilience.

### Win at Obesity India 2024

IIPHG researchers and students contributed to Obesity India 2024, the 17th Annual Conference of the All-India Association for Advancing Research in Obesity. Under the guidance of Dr. Komal Shah, the research team, including Ms. Aakansha Shukla, Ms. Vartika Sakalkar, Ms. Vrushti Pandya, and Ms. Tasneem Latiwala, won 3rd Prize for their study, "The Relationship Between Visceral Fat, Cardiovascular Disease Risk, and Handgrip Strength in Indian Adults with Obesity." This work was part of project INHAS, supported by DHR.



### Infant and young child feeding practice (IYCF) training for Anganwadi workers

IIPHG, in collaboration with Gujarat's National Health Mission and SHSRC, leads the Healthcare Leadership Enhancement Program (HLEP) to build leadership capacities among senior and mid-level healthcare officers. Based on the LEADS framework, the program trains 50 officials annually through mentoring, practice assignments, exposure visits, and interactive learning. With over 100 officers trained in two batches, the third batch begins in February 2025. A recent workshop on "Interpersonal Effectiveness for Leaders," led by Dr. Jallavi Panchamia, focused on self-awareness and team collaboration.



## Highlights

### HLEP helps empowering healthcare leaders in Gujarat



IIPHG, in collaboration with Gujarat's National Health Mission and SHSRC, leads the Healthcare Leadership Enhancement Program (HLEP) to build leadership capacities among senior and mid-level healthcare officers. Based on the LEADS framework, the program trains 50 officials annually through mentoring, practice assignments, exposure visits, and interactive learning. With over 100 officers trained in two batches, the third batch begins in February 2025. A recent workshop on “Interpersonal Effectiveness for Leaders,” led by Dr. Jallavi Panchamia, focused on self-awareness and team collaboration.

### Comprehensive hospital management program for Coal India Senior Medical Officers



IIPHG successfully completed a one-month Hospital Management and Administration Training program for Senior Medical Officers of Coal India. The program was conducted in two phases, from 14th to 25th October and 11th to 23rd November 2024. The program focused on educating medical officers on various aspects of hospital administration, encompassing a diverse range of activities, including group discussions, role-playing exercises, interactive training sessions, and insightful field visits.

Congratulations to all the medical officers who diligently participated in the program. A heartfelt thanks to the expert facilitators for their invaluable contributions. Their in-depth training provided participants with valuable insights and practical knowledge, significantly enhancing their administrative and managerial skills.

### Anthropometry Excellence Programme for supervisory cadre



IIPHG successfully conducted the Anthropometry Excellence Programme (AEP) for supervisory staff in Devbhumi Dwarka from December 9–11, 2024. The training focused on enhancing knowledge and skills related to malnutrition, anthropometric measurements, communication, and growth monitoring. With 52 participants, the program included theory sessions, practical workshops, and group activities.



## Extracurricular Activities

### Winners of the Ni-Kshay SETU logo making competition!



**Winner: Anoushka Dcosta    1st-Runner up : Chaudhari Aayushi    2nd-Runner up: Sumit K Mohanty**

IIPHG is thrilled to announce the winners of the Logo Making Competition for the Ni-Kshay SETU application, organized by the Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar. A big congratulations to our talented winners!!

### IIPHG and NFSU host well-being camp



IIPHG, in collaboration with National Forensic Sciences University, organized a well-being camp on October 11th, 2023, at the IIPHG campus. Over 70 staff and students participated in assessments covering stress, personality, adjustment, depression, anxiety, and addiction. Participants also received counseling from a team of Clinical Psychologists from the School of Behavioural Forensics, National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, including 3 faculties, senior psychologists, and 14 trainee psychologists.

### Reel Pros with Real Skills!



The Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar (IIPHG) proudly announces the winners of the World Mental Health Day Reel Making Competition held on October 10, 2024.

★ 1st Place: Manasi Milind Wakankar

★ 2nd Place: Priyanka Shah and Harsh Dutt

### Celebrating achievements and excellence at IIPHG

IIPHG is proud to celebrate Dr. Lalita Singh from the MPH 2023-2025 batch for her remarkable achievements. She secured the 2nd Runner-up in the SDGs Quiz Competition (IIPHG), 1st Position in the Public Health Quiz at QUEST 2023 (Parul University) and ACIES 2023 (IIPHG), and was selected for the Gujarat Youth Parliament 2024. Additionally, she excelled in sports, winning in volleyball, women's cricket, and kabaddi, and contributed to IIPHG's Cool Roof Project and Public Health Podcast.



## Microbial Contamination and Antibiotic Resistance in Fresh Produce and Agro-Ecosystems in South Asia—A Systematic Review

Pachilu Kalpana <sup>1,2</sup>, Sandul Yasobant <sup>3,4,5,6,\*</sup>, Deepak Saxena <sup>3,4,5,6</sup> and Christiane Schreiber <sup>7</sup>

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Kalpana, P., Yasobant, S., Saxena, D., & Schreiber, C. (2024). Microbial Contamination and Antibiotic Resistance in Fresh Produce and Agro-Ecosystems in South Asia—A Systematic Review. *Microorganisms*, 12(11), 2267.

Journal of Epidemiology and Global Health (2024) 14:1633–1641  
https://doi.org/10.1007/s44197-024-00317-2

### RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Application of the One Health Surveillance (OHS) Matrix to Evaluate the Disease Surveillance Systems in Gujarat, India: A Policy Content Analysis

Sandul Yasobant <sup>1,2,3,4,\*</sup>, Ravina Tadvir <sup>5</sup>, Walter Bruchhausen <sup>6</sup>, Deepak B. Saxena <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

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### Abstract

An effective disease surveillance system can detect outbreaks of emerging zoonotic diseases early and allow the system to respond immediately and control the epidemic. Gujarat is a western Indian state with a population of more than 65 million humans and 26 million livestock, and it has the respective surveillance systems under the Department of Health & Family Welfare for humans and the Department of Animal Husbandry for animals. A veterinarian is placed on establishing cross-sectoral collaborations between these systems, but the joint collaborative activities and their effect on the early warning response are least understood. This provides an opportunity to conduct a secondary policy content analysis study using the One Health Surveillance Matrix (OHSM). The aim of this study was to evaluate the level of collaboration among human-animal disease surveillance systems for zoonotic disease in Gujarat, India. This study findings highlight a few gaps in the human health surveillance system, such as data sharing, sampling, outreach to decision-makers, and external communication, while the animal health surveillance system exhibits deficiencies in the data dissemination to decision-makers, management as a source for data analysis, interpretation of data, and external communication as per the OHSM evaluation. Despite major efforts in strengthening the One Health Surveillance system in Gujarat, India which is profoundly documented in this study.

Yasobant, S., Tadvir, R., Bruchhausen, W., & Saxena, D. B. (2024). Application of the One Health Surveillance (OHS) Matrix to Evaluate the Disease Surveillance Systems in Gujarat, India: A Policy Content Analysis. *Journal of Epidemiology and Global Health*, 1–9.

Health Policy and Planning, 39, 2024, i29–i38  
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/hpp/ciae045  
Supplement Article

OXFORD

## Intersectoral collaboration and health system resilience during COVID-19: learnings from Ahmedabad, India

Sandul Yasobant <sup>1,2,3,4,\*</sup>, K Shrutir Lekha <sup>1</sup>, Hardi Thacker <sup>1</sup>, Bhavin Solanki <sup>5</sup>, Walter Bruchhausen <sup>4</sup> and Deepak Saxena <sup>1,2,3</sup>

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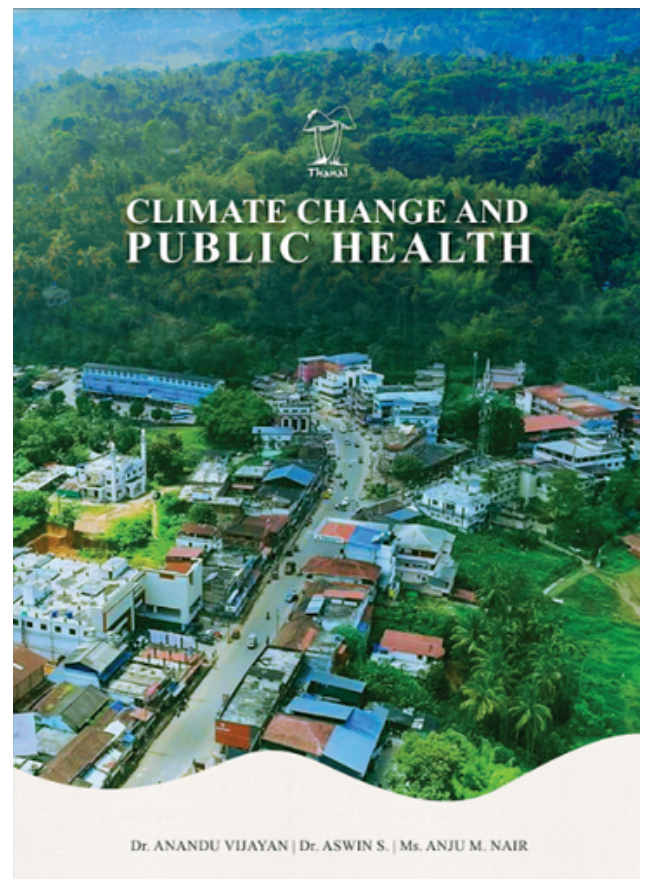
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Accepted on 11 June 2024

### Abstract

Health system resilience refers to the capacity of a health system to effectively anticipate, assimilate, adjust to and recover from unforeseen disruptions and pressures. Evidence indicates that low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) have a double burden of dealing with the existing shortage of health resources in managing both non-emergency care and emergency care during epidemics. Intersectoral collaboration plays a pivotal role in managing crises such as pandemics. The World Health Organization has emphasized that effective intersectoral collaboration is vital for uninterrupted essential services during a pandemic. The study aimed to look at the collaborations entered into at various levels for managing the COVID-19 pandemic, taking as an example the municipal corporation in Ahmedabad, India. We undertook a qualitative study that involved conducting 52 in-depth interviews with officials from the health department, and other departments at the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), including firefighting, estate, engineering and education, as well as private stakeholders. Many diverse observations were documented in this study as collaboration varied across the sectors. A lack of hospital beds and shortage of essential drugs and oxygen posed challenges for healthcare providers and provided an opportunity to collaborate with private stakeholders. Mandatory COVID testing and mobile units such as the Sanjivani van and Vaidi ghar seva were examples of some of the initiatives taken by the AMC to manage the pandemic that were instigated and implemented with support from various departments such as education, engineering, tax, estate, animal husbandry and firefighting. Proper communication between public and private entities will result in unfragmented efforts to combat emergencies. Thus, a resilient health system is necessary as well as systematic intersectoral collaboration to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of essential health services during health emergencies.

Yasobant, S., Lekha, K. S., Thacker, H., Solanki, B., Bruchhausen, W., & Saxena, D. (2024). Intersectoral collaboration and health system resilience during COVID-19: learnings from Ahmedabad, India. *Health Policy and Planning*, 39(Suppl 2), i29.



Vijayan, A., S, A., & Nair, A. M. (2024). Climate change and public health, A case study in Meenangadi, Wayanad. In Thanal Trust. Thanal Trust.  
<https://thanaltrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Climate-Change-and-Public-Health-Case-study-final-with-Cover.pdf>



JMIR RESEARCH PROTOCOLS

Joshi et al

Protocol

## Incentivizing Rural Work Preferences Among Specialist Physicians: Protocol for a Discrete Choice Experiment

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Joshi A, Panchamia J, & Pandya A. (2024). Incentivizing Rural Work Preferences Among Specialist Physicians: Protocol for a Discrete Choice Experiment. JMIR Research Protocol, 13:e59621 <https://doi.org/10.2196/59621>.

Original Article

## Dual burden of TB and mental ill-health: Prevalence and associated factors of anxiety and depression among TB patients in Gujarat

Ajay Chauhan<sup>1</sup>, Apurvakumar Pandya<sup>2,3</sup>, Deepti Bhatt<sup>4</sup>, Vibha Salaliya<sup>1</sup>,  
Rutu Trivedi<sup>4</sup>, Dixit Kapadia<sup>5</sup>, Prachi Shukla<sup>6</sup>, Amar Shah<sup>7</sup>,  
Siddharth Chaudhary<sup>8</sup>, Chandrashekar Joshi<sup>9</sup>, Vivekanand Pandey<sup>4</sup>

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ABSTRACT

**Context:** The coexistence of tuberculosis (TB) and mental disorder presents a daunting public health challenge. Studies suggest that TB patients often experience co-morbid mental health problems, highlighting a dual burden of illness. However, due to limited research in Gujarat, we cannot draw definitive conclusions or develop targeted mental health interventions for this population. **Aim:** To investigate the prevalence of depression, anxiety, and associated factors among TB patients from Gandhinagar and Surat cities in Gujarat, India. **Settings and Design:** The cross-sectional research was conducted in two cities in Gujarat, Gandhinagar and Surat, between October 2021 and July 2023. **Methods and Material:** Demographic information, anxiety and depressive symptoms, and perceived TB stigma were assessed at baseline (within 1 month of treatment initiation) and at the endpoint (6 months posttreatment) using a self-constructed tool for assessing risk factors and standardized instruments, namely, the Patient Health Questionnaire-4, and the Perceived TB Stigma Scale (12 items). **Results:** The study

Chauhan, A., Pandya, A., et al. (2024). Dual Burden of TB and Mental Ill-Health: Prevalence and Associated Factors of Anxiety and Depression among TB Patients in Gujarat. Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care, 13(12), 5615-5620. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jfmpc.jfmpc\\_532\\_24](https://doi.org/10.4103/jfmpc.jfmpc_532_24)



<https://africanjournalofbiomedicalresearch.com/index.php/AJB>  
Afr. J. Biomed. Res. Vol. 27(November 2024); 01-06

Research Article

## Youth-Friendly Service Utilization and Its Determinants in Bole Sub-City, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: A Mixed Method Study

Azmera Gebremeskel<sup>1</sup> and Apurva humar Pandya<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Parul Institute of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Parul University, Vadodra, Gujarat, India  
<sup>2</sup>Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

Abstract

**Background:** By using Youth Friendly Services (YFS), adolescents may protect their sexual and reproductive health, which contributes to their overall and healthy transitional development. Nevertheless, sociocultural, institutional, and personal factors can

Gebremeskel, A., & Pandya A. (2024). Youth-Friendly Service Utilization and Its Determinants in Bole Sub-City, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: A Mixed Method Study. African Journal of Biomedical Research, 27,1-6. Indexing: Scopus

Chapter

## Oral Health Status among Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women

Medha Wadhwa, Pulkit Kalyan, Anshula Deshpande  
and Neeraj Deshpande

Abstract

Pregnancy, lasting about 41 weeks, causes significant physiological, biochemical, and physical changes in a woman's body, including the oral cavity. Hormonal shifts, particularly in estrogen and progesterone, increase tissue sensitivity, leading to oral issues like gingivitis, periodontitis, tooth erosion, and dental caries. Changes in saliva pH, dietary imbalances, and poor hygiene further contribute to these problems, including lesions like granulomas. Post-pregnancy, the loss of bone calcification for milk production adds to oral health concerns. Poor oral health during pregnancy has been linked to adverse outcomes like preterm birth and gestational diabetes. Thus, healthcare providers must educate pregnant and breastfeeding women on oral health risks. Collaboration between obstetricians and dentists is essential in minimizing these risks through education and intervention.

Wadhwa, M., Kalyan, P., Deshpande, A., & Deshpande, N. (2024). Oral Health Status among Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women.

## Additions to IIPHG family!



### Dr. Smita Rani Borgohain

Dr. Smita Rani Borgohain, a retired Indian Air Force Medical Pathologist with 14+ years of service, specializes in pathology, laboratory sciences, and healthcare administration. At IIPHG, she leads the medical center, and engaged in teaching subjects like quality assurance and healthcare delivery. She is a former Research Coordinator in the USA and is a certified NQAS Assessor.



### Dr. Shabana Khan

IIPHG welcomes Dr. Shabana Khan joined as Assistant Professor. She brings 10 years of experience managing a 1400 bedded teaching hospital including 9 years of teaching experience. She has completed MBA and PhD in Healthcare Management from Sumandeep Vidyapith, Vadodra.

## Coming up Next...

Dialogue on Health Diplomacy explores India's role in addressing health system challenges in the Global South, with participants including ambassadors, government officials, academia, and healthcare sector representatives on 17th and 18th January 2025.

Batch 2: 15-day residential ITEC Course on "Strategic Approaches for Health Technology Assessment" in collaboration with DHR HTAI, supported by the Ministry of External Affairs, for 30 participants from diverse countries in February 2025.

Online Certificate Program in Quality Management for Healthcare Professionals from February 2025. Expert-led sessions over 16 Saturdays, designed to enhance the skills in quality management by Centre for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety in collaboration with CAHO.

Launching of eCourse on the One Health Approach for Pandemic Preparedness (OHAPP) soon! This course will empower researchers, professionals, and students to address emerging zoonotic diseases and promote intersectoral collaboration.

## HEALTH PALOOZZA !

C E C N A L L I E V R U S C N  
I J W R P H L S O J J N B O W  
M H L U A Z C N L R Q N I H Y  
O F T U B U F H I Z X T D O U  
N R I L A J G N U S O D S R S  
O C D T A J S F Z M Y R Z T U  
C E P I D E M I O L O G Y U O  
E D O D N L H R E I X Y K Q I  
O S F A U C P C V T B Q N I T  
I Y Q L H H I A I P K H Z L C  
C S S K T B H D C L Z O J N E  
O D T L X E K V E N B R S T F  
S G A P B F X V S N L U G Y N  
Q E B A T S J H A K C C P O I  
H L K P X W A C K U O E P J D

Winners will be acknowledged in the next edition, based on a first-come, first-served basis. Deadline: 25 March 2025

1. Disease prevention through education, services, and programs
2. The number of new cases of a disease in a specific population
3. The global health organization that works on improving public health worldwide
4. The practice of protecting and improving health through governmental and non-governmental efforts
5. A disease that is spread from person to person through direct contact
6. The primary factor influencing health disparities
7. The study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states
8. A group of people with a common characteristic, often used for health studies
9. The act of assessing and monitoring the health of populations
10. The risk factors contributing to chronic diseases

## Contribute to IIPHG Newsletter

We invite everyone to contribute to our next newsletter. Brief details of any new project or publication, achievement, or opportunities are welcome from Faculties, Students, Alumni and our Stakeholders. Send your feedback/contribution to [newsletter@iiphg.org](mailto:newsletter@iiphg.org)