

IIHMR New Delhi, works with a mission of improving standards of health through better management of healthcare and related programmes, prepare students for managerial positions with a focus on national and international healthcare management



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SYNAPSE..... Monthly health e-newsletter

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

1) MEDICON-2011

Date: 12 - 14th May 2011
Venue: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Website:
<http://www.informer.org.in/conferences>

2) 2nd Annual Clinical Trials Asia Summit 2011

Date: 13th May 2011
Venue: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Website:
http://virtueinsight.com/site/Pharma_Details.aspx?SC_ID=13

3) Hospital Management Conference

Date: 27 - 28th May 2011
Venue: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Website:
<http://www.hmcindia.in>

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT OF THE MONTH

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION FOCUSES ON BETTER PATIENT SAFETY

A survey was conducted by World Health Organization (WHO) on several hospitals and it was observed that one in 10 hospital admissions leads to an adverse event and one in 300 admissions into death. The WHO has listed it among the top 10 killers in the world. The British National Health System survey in 2009 reported that 15 percent of its patients were misdiagnosed. It is also believed that the incidence of unintentional medical errors is about 10-17 percent of all cases in western nations. Approximately 225,000 deaths occur per year in the US due to unintentional medical errors. The National Initiative on Patient Safety was set up by the Indian Government in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) few years back.

SEX SELECTION TO COST DOCTORS LICENCE

Recommendations have been made from the meeting of Union health secretary Mr. K. Chandramouli and state health secretaries of seventeen states to determine how the PC and PNDT (Pre-conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Technique) act can be implemented in a better way. The provisional data of Census 2011 shows there is a decline in child sex-ratio from 927 girls per 1000 boys in 2001 to 914 girls per 1000 boys in 2011. There will be strict rule for doctors for implementation of this act. According to new recommendations if a doctor is found guilty of doing sex selection test, will permanently lose their license to practice issued by Medical Council of India under PC and PNDT act.

MINISTRY FINALIZES NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH POLICY

The Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry has finalized the National Health Research Policy to conduct ethical research aimed at improving the health status of the vulnerable population. The policy includes setting up of National Health Research Management Forum which will make a five year plan for health research to provide a suitable environment to employ experts in this field.

REVISED TARGETS TO CONTROL IODINE DISORDERS

Union Health Ministry has set new targets to reduce Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) prevalence to 5 percent by end of 2017. At present according to the evaluation only 71 percent people are consuming iodized salt adequately while the rest 29 percent are consuming very little or non-iodized salt. The world is expected to be free of IDD by 2015. Salt Testing kits are being provided which will be used by the health workers to identify the villages where salt has no iodine or less iodine. 13 million children would be at risk of IDD so this should be a high priority program as of now.

EVENTS AT IIHMR

1. Online Courses in Healthcare IT launched by IIHMR, New Delhi in collaboration with OTECH –

- Health Imaging and IT standards.
- Introduction to Medical Digital Imaging.
- Introduction to PACS.
- PACS workflow.

For details visit-

<http://www.iihmrdelhi.org/HealthcareIT/index.htm>

2. CIPM

IIHMR, New Delhi launches Online Web based Course of Certificate in Project Management (CIPM) – specialization in Healthcare.

For details visit-

<http://www.cepm-iihmr.org>

3. GSS Practices in Healthcare 2011
Date: 16th July 2011
Venue: United Services Institution of India (USI), Rao Tula Marg, New Delhi.

For details visit -

<http://iihmrdelhi.org/mdp%20calendar/Conference%20on.pdf>

MDP@IIHMR

Forthcoming MDP's at IIHMR

- Workshop on Business Development Strategies and Skills for Healthcare Executives
23rd June 2011

For MDP details contact:

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STATE OF JAMMU & KASHMIR SEEKS BIGGEST DECLINE IN CHILD SEX RATIO IN THE COUNTRY

In 2011 census Jammu and Kashmir has seen the largest decline in child sex ratio in the country as compared to the census of 2001. Now there are only 859 girls per 1000 boys as compared to 941 girls per 1000 boys in 2001 census. There are only 84 registered ultra sound clinics in the state, but close watch is being kept on the nursing homes and clinics. The purchase of ultra sound machines are being restricted to registered clinics only. Meetings are being held to come up with better implementation of Pre-conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Technique (PC and PNDT) act.

GLOBAL NEWS

HEIGHT OF VERY POOR WOMEN SHRINKING, REDUCING THEIR CHANCES OF A BETTER LIFE

A study conducted by Harvard researchers revealed that the average height of very poor women in some developing countries has shrunk in recent decades. Height is a reliable indicator of childhood nutrition, disease and poverty. The study found that average heights have declined among women in 14 African countries and stagnated in 21 countries in Africa and South America. The authors suggest that poor women born in the last two decades, especially in Africa, are worse off than their mothers or grandmothers born after World War II. The study was published in the online journal PLoS One. They analyzed the data on over 0.3 million women in more than 50 developing countries.

EFFECTIVENESS OF FOUR-DRUG TB TREATMENT CONFIRMED

One of the biggest challenges in fighting tuberculosis comes from new drug-resistant strains of the disease. One of the main reasons these strains have developed is that TB patients often don't take their standard, 14-pill, course of medication as instructed. Now a new study finds that a simpler approach - combining four TB drugs into one pill - is just as effective in treating this global killer. For about a decade now the World Health Organization has recommended treating tuberculosis by using a four-drug, fixed-dose combination of medication - which has the same amount of pharmaceutical ingredients as the 14 pills that have traditionally been used.

GLOBAL CONSENSUS TO SHARE INFLUENZA VIRUS SAMPLES

A landmark agreement has finally been reached. After weeks of negotiations, a working-group meeting convened under the authority of the World Health Assembly and coordinated by WHO successfully agreed upon a framework to ensure that in a pandemic, influenza virus samples will be shared with partners. The framework, which includes binding legal regimes for WHO, national influenza laboratories around the world and industry partners in both developed and developing countries will help to increase and expedite access to essential vaccines, antiviral and diagnostic kits, especially for lower-income countries like India.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. World Health Day was observed on 7th April
2. Excessive use of Anti Tuberculosis Treatment for infertile women causes drug resistance
3. Newer contraceptive pills may double blood clot risk
4. World Population to Reach 7 Billion on 31 October
5. World Lacks 350,000 Expert Midwives - United Nations
6. Non-communicable diseases cost Indian economy \$9 billion in 2005
7. World Haemophilia Day was observed on 17th April
8. Elderly Population to increase 12 percent by 2025 - Union Health Ministry

RECENT RESEARCHES

DRINKING OVER RECOMMENDED LIMIT RAISES CANCER RISKS

The Europe-wide study published in the British Medical Journal has reported that one in 10 cancers in men and one in 33 in women were caused by past or current alcohol intake. More than 18 percent of alcohol-related cancers in men and about 4 percent in women were linked to excessive drinking. Previous research has shown a link between alcohol consumption and cancers of the esophagus, liver, bowel and female breast. When alcohol is broken down by the body it produces a chemical which can damage DNA, increasing the chance of developing cancer. The latest research found that individuals who drank more than two standard drinks a day and women who drank a day were particularly at risk of alcohol-related cancers.

ANTIOXIDANT FORMULA PRIOR TO RADIATION EXPOSURE MAY PREVENT DNA INJURY

Researchers at the Society of Interventional Radiology's 36th Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago, Ill, have identified a unique formulation of antioxidants. The small study showed that even though many antioxidants are poorly absorbed by the body, one particular mixture was effective in protecting against the specific type of injury caused by medical imaging exams. Humans are having 70 percent water, and X-rays collide with water molecules to produce free radicals that can go on to do damage by direct ionization of DNA and other cellular targets. A unique formulation of antioxidants is taken orally before imaging with ionization radiation which minimizes cell damage. After using the formula 50 percent reduction in DNA injury was observed in the first clinical trial of its kind. This formula works as it neutralize the free radical. It will help in a notable dose-dependent reduction in DNA injury and also play an important role in protecting adults and children who require imaging or a screening study.

STILLBIRTHS TIED TO PASSIVE SMOKE: STUDY

Pregnant women who live or work with smokers may be at slightly higher risk of having a stillborn baby, giving birth to a slightly smaller baby or having a baby with a smaller head, according to a Canadian study. Passive smoke is thought to expose people to about one per cent of the smoke that active smokers inhale, and the study adds to evidence that even passive smoking can harm unborn babies. Undiluted sidestream smoke contains many harmful chemicals and in greater concentration than cigarette smoke inhaled through a filter. Those chemicals may harm the fetus in a number of ways — for instance, by restricting blood flow and possibly damaging the placenta. The Canadian researchers also founded that babies born to passive smokers weighed 54 grams, or nearly 2 ounces, less than babies whose mothers lived and worked in smoke-free places.

CURRENT TOPIC

Transplantation of Human Organ Act
1994

TOPIC IN NEXT ISSUE

Bio - Medical Waste (Management
and Handling) Rules, 1998

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TRANSPLANTATION OF HUMAN ORGAN ACT 1994

This act was passed by Indian Government to regulate the transplantation of human organ and prohibit commercial dealings of human organ. The Union Parliament had enacted the Transplantation of Human Organs Act (THOA) in 1994 and the Act came into force in February, 1995. The main purpose of the Act is:-

1. To regulate the removal, storage and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes.
2. To prevent commercial dealings in human organs and
3. To regulate hospitals involved to ensure transparency.

A National Consultation was held in 2007 and certain amendments were recommended in THOA. The amendments proposed were:

1. To empower Union Territories, especially Government of NCT of Delhi to have their own appropriate authority instead of DGHS and / or Additional DG (Hospitals).
2. To make the punishments under the Act harsh and cognizable for the illegal transplantation activities to deter the offenders from committing this crime.
3. To provide for registration of the centers for removal of organs from the cadavers and brain stem dead patients for harvesting of organs instead of registration of centers for transplantations only.
4. To allow swap operations between the related donor and recipients who do not match themselves but match with other similar donors / recipients.

Thus the Ministry drafted the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues (Amendment) Bill, 2008. The logic for the amendments proposed in the Bill was that the Act should cover both organs & tissues i.e. the name of the act to be modified to 'Transplantation of Human Organs & Tissues Act' by amending Section 1. Also expansion of the term "Near Relatives" only to the extent of including grandparents and grand children by amending Section 2. The Review Committee recommended that every hospital should make it mandatory for the ICU/ Treating Medical Staff to request relatives of brain dead patients for organ donation. It proposed to introduce this requirement in the case of Corneas and special provision for removal of Corneas i.e. a trained eye technician is required. This suggestion has been accepted. The Act also provides for an 'Appropriate Authority' to be set up in each State/ Union Territory to perform:-

1. To grant registration to a hospital for the removal, storage and transplantation of any human organ. And if needed than to suspend or cancel such registration.
2. To enforce standards for hospitals engaged in the removal/ storage or transplantation of human organs.
3. To investigate any complaint or breach of any provision of the Act or the Rules.
4. To inspect hospitals periodically for examination of the quality of transplantation and follow up medical care to the recipients as well as donors.

Enhancement of Penalties: - The Review Committee has recommended significant enhancements in the penalties for offences committed under the Act. It is, proposed that minimum imprisonment for offences under the Act should not be less than five years and fine would not be less than Rs. Five lacks.

References:

<http://india.gov.in/allimpfrms/allacts/2606.pdf>

<http://indialawyers.wordpress.com/2009/09/19/mendment-to-the-transplantation-of-human-organs-act-1994/>

http://www.medlineindia.com/acts/THOA/chapter_I.html

NOTE: The newsletter is open for inclusion of any information or advertisement; however selection of information will be governed by the SYNAPSE Team, IIHMR, New Delhi

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