

Smart City Surat: A Case Study for Urban Health System and Climate Resilience

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Abstract

Urbanization refers to the population shift from rural to urban areas. It began during the industrial revolution. Urbanization creates enormous social, economic and environmental changes. Climate change is considered as the greatest threat to human health of the 21st century. Rapid urbanization and climate change has led to increased mortality from non-communicable diseases associated with lifestyle. Differences in morbidity and mortality from new and resurgent infections vary depending on the particular disease and location. Hence, with rapid urbanization and climate change, resilience planning is very crucial. Every city is different and success of city specific urban health program depends on a city specific planning considering local factors complexity. The aim of this case study for Surat city is to explore the likely influence of urbanization and climate change especially high temperature and rain (flood) on urban health of the city. This case study briefly touched health transition and urban health, profile of Surat city, Surat Health System including Disease Surveillance System, urban challenges for Surat and possible interventions. City specific intervention package (integrated operational resilience action plan) may include migration Specific Policy, Heat and Health Action Plan, Flood Management Plan, Local adaptation and proper implementation of National Program for prevention and control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) and City Specific Disease Surveillance System. This may vary from city to city.



Biography: Professionally qualified medical epidemiologist and skilled researcher with rich experience of more than 20



years in Teaching / Training, Research and Program / Project designing and Implementation in health and development sector, with special focus on Epidemiology, Research, Non-Communicable diseases, Child Health, Urban Health and Climate Change (Heat and Flood). Led CSR/philanthropy supported projects during tenure with NGOs. He works as an Associate Professor at Indian Institute of Public Health – Hyderabad (PHFI). Before that he supported Medical Schools and many reputed organizations and like C. U Shah Medical College, Sumandeep Vidyapeeth University, Centre for Global Health Research-Toronto, St. John's Research Institute – Bangalore, UHCRC-Surat, INCLEN-New Delhi, MAMTA-HIMC, New Delhi in terms of myriad Public Health areas. Published around 30 plus papers in peer reviewed journals. He is specialized in maximizing the evidence through data and the project output with timely completion of the task by using minimal resources.

Speaker Publications:

1. Prevalence and risk factors associated with tuberculin skin test positivity among household contacts of smear-positive pulmonary tuberculosis cases in Umerkot, Pakistan; K Rath S, S Akhtar, H Rahbar M, I Azam S; The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease 6 (10), 851-857
2. Comparison of physician-certified verbal autopsy with computer-coded verbal autopsy for cause of death assignment in hospitalized patients in low-and middle-income countries; J Leita, N Desai, L Aleksandrowicz, P Byass, P Miasnikof, S Tollman; BMC medicine 12 (1), 22
3. A hospital-based observational study of type 2 diabetic subjects from Gujarat, India; M Patel, IM Patel, YM Patel, SK Rath; Journal of health, population, and nutrition 29 (3), 265

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