

A STUDY OF MORBIDITY PROFILE IN SOUTH INDIAN GERIATRIC POPULATION IN A RURAL COMMUNITY AT THIRUVERKADU THIRUVALLUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND:

Estimates of health problems of the elderly in developing countries are required from time to time to predict trends in disease burden and plan health care for the elderly. Developing countries have a poor track record of equitable distribution of health care. Marginalized groups living in rural area or villages have poor penetration of health services. The present study was taken with the aim to rule out various socio-demographic factors in geriatric people and also to find the prevalence of morbidity profiles.

METHODS:

A community based cross sectional study was carried out by house to house survey of all people aged over 60 years in an rural area (Thiruverkadu) . The total elderly population in this selected area was 500. Information was collected in a pre-tested instrument and interviewed through house to house survey among the study population

RESULTS:

Male elders outnumbered the female elders, 61.8% belongs to age group 60-09; In the age group the prevalence was high in diabetes mellitus(63.1%), hypertension(58.25%), osteoarthritis(54.87%), CAD(58.88%), COPD(68.33%), Anemia(68.18%), cataract(71%), dental problems(58.62%), Epilepsy(60.71%),

Thyroid disorders(75%), CLD(72.73%), Tuberculosis(66.67%). The smoking percentage was high as 21.4% . The change in family members attitude with expect family support and lonely feel were the common problems.

CONCLUSION:

The study in thiruverkadu among those geriatric population has highlighted prevalence of morbidity and results of socio-demographic profile and common existing problems.

KEYWORDS:

Morbidity, Elderly, socio-demographic profile, Prevalence.