

TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Rural Tribal Elderly Women's Sufferings In A Low Resource Region
Туре	Oral Presentation Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment
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Content

Elderly women suffer more in developing countries because they lack resources, health services, social support. Noncommunicable disorders are common worldwide, more in urban compared to rural. They need timely detection, therapy. Studies about rural tribal women from low resource settings are scarce. OBJECTIVE was to know burden of disorders in rural tribal elderly women. METHODOLOGY: Community based study was done in 100 villages of Melghat, Amravati, Maharashtra, India, with 68376 population, 1982 (2.89%) women, five years beyond menopause study subjects. Information was collected through interviews with predesigned questionnaire. Blood pressure, blood sugar were measured, if higher, repeated. Most women were illiterate, belonged to low economic class RESULTS, CONLCUSION: Overall 35.6% of 1982 were not aware about possible disorders in elderly women 64.4% had complaints, visual 52%, hearing 22.79%, joints 19.3%, dental 13.53%, gynaecological 12%, urinary 11%, lump in breast 2 with some overlap, 18.17% had high blood pressure, blood sugar was elevated in 18.32%. After advising helping, 80% women took action. Overall 77% women said they were satisfied with life but were apathetic about problems which affected their everyday life, expected special system for their care in villages. Access, availability, affordability, acceptability, attitude all mattered. Health systems needed to respond, with plans. Community support, home assessment, nursing care through existing systems, and beyond are needed with clear roles for doctors, nurses, health managers, civil society, governments.