

Infectious Diseases including HIV/AIDS in India: States Differentials

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Abstract:

The onset of sexual activity makes the beginning of exposure to pregnancy as well as to potential health hazard, including HIV/AIDS. The spread of reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's) including Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in India has been posing a major public health threat since more than past one decade. HIV and AIDS prevalence in India have been on the rise for more than a decade and reached larding proportions in recent years. Though, HIV was reported in India much later than United States and Africa but keeping in view it is a large population base the number of HIV An infected person is rapidly increasing. As reported in 1998, there were 3-5 million people living with HIV/AIDS in India but it is estimated that India would be the single largest country with HIV infected persons by the year 2000.

Therefore, in this study an attempt is made to see the awareness and perception about curability of RTI's, STI's and HIV/AIDS, among males and females in different states in India from the "Rapid Household Survey on Reproductive and Child Health (RCH), 1999-2000. The Multiple Regression Analysis shows with their socio-economic background characteristics was found that the risk of the infection is more among the less skilled, low educated and poorly paid laborers living in Urban slum.