5.4 TRANSLATING EVIDENCE INTO POLICY IN LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Chair: Dr Babu L Verma, India
Co Chair: Dr. Ravindra Pandey, India

INDICLEN EXPERIENCE OF TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO POLICY AND PROGRAM

IndiaCLEN as one of the seven regional networks of the International Clinical Epidemiology Network (INCLEN), has done number of policy relevant multi centric research in India. The notable among these projects are Assessment of Injection Practices in India; Vit A / IFA supplementation. Several rounds of pulse polio program evaluation, etc. The findings of these research have lead to changes in policy and program in the country. During the session, the challenges, solutions, design, research findings and how these findings lead to the change in policy and program, will be presented.

FROM NCD RESEARCH TO POLICY AND PROGRAM: EXPERIENCE IN PAKISTAN

T Jafar.* Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

Non-communicable diseases (NCD) have become the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in the population in Pakistan, leading to an estimated loss of US $5.5 billion annually just from productive life years lost. The prevalence of hypertension has increased exponentially, with trends data suggesting reversal of the social gradient life years lost. The prevalence of hypertension has increased exponentially. Several rounds of pulse polio program evaluation, etc. The findings of these research have lead to changes in policy and program in the country. During the session, the challenges, solutions, design, research findings and how these findings lead to the change in policy and program, will be presented.

MANAGEMENT OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN THE GAUTENG PROVINCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

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Background In South Africa, the burden of Non-communicable diseases (NCD) is staggering (57% in terms of Initial Burden of Disease, 2000 report). The NCD include cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes mellitus, asthma and respiratory diseases, epilepsy and cancer. In line with its vision, the Public Health Directorate have decided to be proactive in managing this problem by setting up a surveillance system based on WHO stepwise model for improvement of management of the NCD at the provincial health facilities.

Objectives The purpose of this project is to improve the burden of NCD in the Province. The objectives of this project include evaluation of health facility data on NCD; Development of an intervention strategy for improving NCD in the Health Districts; Implementation of the intervention plan; and Setting-up a surveillance site for the continuous monitoring and evaluation of non-communicable disease in this District.

Results The study found a significant burden of NCD (such cardio-metabolic diseases, cancer) in the Province in comparison to the rest of South Africa and other countries of Africa. This burden in addition to burden of communicable diseases (such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS) would require significant resource allocation for effective management. An integrated approach to healthcare is necessary to address this.

5.5 SOCIAL POLICY

Chair: Dr Patricia Buffler, USA

DOES HEALTHCARE SPENDING IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AND REDUCE HEALTH INEQUALITIES?

D Lemon,* R Khan. Dorset PCT, Dorset, UK

Health systems around the world are struggling to cope with increasing healthcare costs and rising demand due to an ageing population. There have been several financial initiatives in the NHS to motivate improved performance.

The aim of this study is to examine the link between healthcare expenditure in both primary and secondary care and health outcomes and whether this relationship varies with levels of deprivation.

The study is done in Dorset PCT, which has one of the highest proportion of over 75 year olds in England. The dataset in the study is...