

28.11.2004 (8.00- 8.30 AM)

OIII.1

Higher prevalence of rheumatological disease in urban area as compared to rural area

Das SK, Shrivastava R, **Kumar P**, Shrivastava S, Chittoria N, Mehrotra S, Singh R, Agarwal CG, Mehrotra S, Mitra M.K.

Department of Medicine, Radiodiagnosis and statistics. King George's Medical University. Lucknow.

Aim: To compare the self-reported prevalence of rheumatological diseases in rural and urban population of Lucknow (North India).

Methods: An epidemiological survey was carried out by door-to-door visit using a structured phase 1 questionnaire of community oriented program for control of rheumatic disease in an urban colony in center of Lucknow and villages of Gosaiganj and Sitapur road in rural area of Lucknow. 1386 villagers and 3880 urban dwellers were surveyed. The Questionnaire derived self-reported information of various diseases like rheumatological, heart disease, hypertension, rheumatic heart disease, diabetes, tuberculosis, diarrhea, dyspnea, cough, ENT and eye problems.

Results: The following percentages of various diseases were observed in urban and rural population respectively. Rheumatological diseases- 34.5% (urban) Vs 12.5% (rural); cardiovascular diseases – 7.7% (urban) Vs 0.7% (rural); diabetes – 3.4% (urban) Vs 0.1%(rural), tuberculosis 0.6% (Urban) Vs 0.8% (rural), diarrhea 1.6%(Urban) Vs 3.6% (rural), dyspnea 4.8%(Urban) Vs 2.7% (rural), cough 4.9% (Urban) Vs 6.4% (rural), ENT 3.4% (Urban) Vs 2.2% (rural), eye problems 3.4% (Urban) Vs 5.2% (rural). Amongst MSK Pain the following diseases could be identified- osteoarthritis, low backache, soft tissue rheumatism, fibromyalgia, cervical spondylosis and post traumatic pain. Other diseases like rheumatoid arthritis, gout and SNSA were uncommon. Osteoarthritis is very common (46.3%) in urban area however low back pain is very common in rural area (29.0%)

Conclusion: We conclude that prevalence of rheumatological diseases is significantly higher in urban area as compared to rural areas ($p=0.0000001$).