

***The incidence of self reported musculoskeletal problems in rural and urban population of Lucknow (North India)***

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***Objective:*** To study the incidence of musculoskeletal problems 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 I questionnaire of Community Oriented Programme for Control of Rheumatic Disease in a cluster of four villages of Gosainganj CHC, District Lucknow and in urban area of Rakabganj. Populations of 5118 in rural area and 5053 in urban area of all age groups were surveyed. One year after the initial survey an incidence phase questionnaire was applied to the same population.

***Results:*** In Incidence Phase 335 persons of urban area reported Musculoskeletal problems. This would give an incidence of 66.3 per thousand. Out of 335 persons reporting musculoskeletal problems 296 (88.4%) were above 15 years and 39 (11.6%) were <15 years of age, 156 (46.6%) were male and 179 (53.4%) were female. In rural area 132 persons reported musculoskeletal problems. This would give an incidence of 25.8 per thousand. Out of 132 persons reporting musculoskeletal problems 112 (84.8) were above 15 years and 20 (15.2%) were <15 years of age, 55 (41.7%) were male and 77 (58.3%) were female.

***Conclusion:*** Higher incidence rate of musculoskeletal problems is observed in urban area as compared to rural area. This is also in accordance with our results of higher prevalence of musculoskeletal problems in urban areas.

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