

Does Household of India Face Out of Pocket Expenditure?

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Short Communication

According to WHO, the Out-of-pocket Expenditure/payments (OOPs) is defined as the direct expenditures which are made through individuals for their health care when they utilize the services. This Out of Pocket payment is excluded any payment which is paid previously for the health services like health insurance, Out of pocket payments is one of the parts in health care financing landscape, in all countries the health financing is rely on co-payment to mobilize the revenue, user fees, utilizing the health services, includes improves healthcare system efficiency and quality of the services or health system cost [1]. When family spend 10% or more than 10% of the total family income which is considered as an indication of catastrophic health expenditure [2].

Increasing catastrophic health expenditure among households may lead to the financial risk and financial insecurity. Country like India though some of the health services were free in public health centres like emergency care, maternal and child health care, Provision of medical care and Immunization & education to the community, there were charges for services like medicine, bed, user fees and bribe. World health organization define that whenever healthcare expenditure is equal to 40% or more than 40% of the total household income then the condition called Catastrophic health expenditure [2]. In simple word, Catastrophic Health Expenditure (CHE) is when family spent a large amount of family income on the health care services, which may end up in poverty as a result [3-9]. The contribution factors of catastrophic Health Expenditure are availing traditional medicine services, hospitalization, Receiving the dentistry services, Drugs, medical diagnostic tests, health-care products, type of medical or surgical treatment availing and lacking in health insurance coverage and this out of pocket expenditure may end up in poverty [10,11]. One of the core objectives of universal health coverage (UHC) is financial protection of the population [12].

The accessibility of health care services for poor has improved slightly and the number of the family facing catastrophic health expenditures has seemingly increased among households due to catastrophic expenditure because of this expenditure some family may end up in poverty and financial crises. In country like India though the some of the health services were free in public health centers like emergency care, maternal and child health care, Provision of medical care and Immunization & education to the community, there were charges for services like medicine, bed, user fees and bribe [13,14]. In 50 developing countries the WHO has performed the World Health Survey by using a consistent instrument, between 2002 and 2004 and it contain one single question followed by eight question which is listed below and from these question we can able to find the health expenditure approximately [15]. This survey contains questions regarding the individual household expenditure details on health care services; it will collect the information regarding availing the

outpatient services, traditional medication services, dental services, hospitalization of family member, medical/diagnostic investigations, healthcare products and other services which includes food and transportations [16]. The health expenditure approximations can be derived from either the single-item or eight-item questions. Another type of question concerns about the inpatient costs in the past 11 months (exclusion of most recent month) [16,17]. The rural household of an India faces the more Catastrophic Health Expenditure than the urban (rural (25.3%) and urban (17.5%)) [9] because of the out of pocket expenditure 87% rural poverty occurs mainly in the poor states of India and in richest states proposition of poverty in a rural is 67% [18]. Always the percentage of the poverty is very high in rural areas (3.5%) than the urban areas (2.5%) [19,20]. The elementary part of a healthcare system is not only to providing and improving the health status of the population, it has to protect the individual household from a financial crises which take place due to the Out of pocket payments [21-24]. People are protected from the catastrophic if country has risk pooling mechanism [20] but most of the middle and low income/ developing countries experience high OOP payments and due to scarcity of risk-sharing mechanisms and at last OOP will end up in poverty [22-28].

According to the National Health Account (NHA) report, the Total Health Expenditure (THE) for India is estimated at Rs. 4,83,259 crores for the year 2014-2015. Total Health Expenditure (THE) Comprise of current and capital expenditures incurred by Government and Private Sources including External/Donor funds. In India 62.6% households are affected by OOPE (Rs. 3,02,425 crores) during the year of 2014-15.

Indicator is calculated as:

$$OOP = \frac{\text{Household OOP Expenditure for health during the past 12 months}}{\text{Total annual household income}} \times 100 \text{ (WHO).}$$

If its 10% it's an indicator of the catastrophic health expenditure, and if it's equal or more than 40% which is called the catastrophic health expenditure.

Conclusion

Because of high medical fees many households not able to use medical services and without getting proper advice from the professional also they tend to take self-medication's which may lead to the drug resistance [29]. We expect to decrease the OOP expenditures and securing family from poverty by using the risk pooling mechanism and by UHC (universal health coverage). People in the middle-income country the out of pocket expenditures are very high, by finding the determinant of OOP expenditures; we can help in achieving the universal access and health system delivery effectively. Healthcare expenditure is very rapidly rising in countries, especially in developing country. 10% of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) globally spent on health [30]. Unfortunately, all of this money is not spent correctly.

There are inadequate resources [31]. Sustainable development goals are help to eliminate poverty, improving the healthcare & healthcare system, reduce inequality and economic growth this goal has indirectly decrease the Out of pocket expenditure/ catastrophic health expenditure [32,33].

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