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Comparison of Chronic suppurative otitis media in rural and urban primary school children in Bangladesh

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Background: Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media (CSOM) is a common community health disorder of childhood in many developing countries including Bangladesh. In children, it may cause significant delays in speech, cognitive, educational and psychological development.

Objectives: To compare prevalence of CSOM between rural and urban primary school children and to see their relationship with certain socio-demographic factors.

Methodology: 681 rural primary school children of Shibpur upazilla of Narsingdi district, Bangladesh and 964 urban primary school children of Dhaka Metropolitan City, Bangladesh had underwent ENT check up by the doctors trained in ENT and their guardians were interviewed regarding their socioeconomic status and other related issues using a pre tested protocol.

Results: Among study population, 6.02% of the rural and 2.07% of the urban primary school children had CSOM. Overall, 3.71% of the population had CSOM. CSOM was found slightly more among girls than boys in both rural (6.05% vs 5.98%) and urban (2.33% vs 1.82%) children. There were significant association of parent/guardian's occupation, yearly income, housing, total family members, maternal education, and bathing habit with the children having CSOM of the rural and urban community. Though, sanitation is an important risk factor of CSOM but there was no significant association of sanitation with the children having CSOM of the rural and urban community.

Conclusion: Primary ear care education to students, teachers can prevent vulnerable children from developing hearing impairment and its resultant complications. Thus, our future citizens would be safeguarded from preventable burning problem of CSOM.

Biography

Md Mazharul Shaheen has completed his degree from Dhaka Medical College under University of Dhaka and achieved FCPS (ENT) from Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons in 2002. He did his MS (ENT) from University of Dhaka in 2011 and Masters in Medical Education (MMEd) from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University in 2013. He served as Registrar, Resident Surgeon, and Assistant Professor in different medical colleges of Bangladesh and has teaching experience in ENT for more than 15 years and published more than 20 papers in reputed national and international journals. He is now serving as an editorial board member/reviewer of reputed ENT journals of home and abroad.

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