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Federal Community Healthcare in India

Introduction: The objective of this project is to analyze the structure and success of community health programs within India through a thorough review of published health policies as well as on-the-ground observations made at the J.J.M. Medical College of Karnataka, India. The project aims to shed light on the funding and quality-of-care of Indian healthcare, within the context of its extensive population.

Methods: Information gathering for this project involved a two-week observorship at J.J.M. Medical College. Daily notes from the observorship, which included village outreach, preventative clinic visits, and sit-ins on lectures, were compiled and written into a 27-page report for the Medical College. This report was then cross-referenced with a literature review of Indian healthcare policies to provide a more clear-cut picture of the community health within the nation.

Results: Indian healthcare policy has evolved into a three-tiered system that comprises small, local clinics paired with larger district hospitals and specialty centers. These institutions provide all forms of care free-of-cost, with an emphasis on preventative treatment for the ongoing H.I.V and tuberculosis epidemics within the nation. This structure is supported by federal policy implemented in the 19th century that continues to be updated in the context of new healthcare advancements.

Conclusions: The project found that, despite India's extensive population, the federal government has instituted an effective system that allows for comprehensive care for its populations. Deficiencies still exist, however, in the quality of care, due to the overworked nature of Indian physicians combined with the overwhelming flow of patient intake. Steps must be taken to alleviate this discrepancy in order to ensure a healthy and well-care for the population.

