

Article :

Gupta, Indrani & Dasgupta, Purnamita. Health-seeking Behavior in Urban Delhi: An Exploratory Study. *Journal of Health and Population in Developing Countries*, vol 3, no 2

Summary :

This paper investigated the healthcare-seeking behavior of residents in Delhi. It studied the impact and influence of some demographic and economic factors on healthcare seeking and focussed on the healthcare choices.

Discussion:

The paper evoked an interesting discussion on the healthcare system in India and how it is evolving. The class also benefited from the personal experiences of Akshay Raizada, MD- gastroenterologist and former research fellow at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

We discussed how health care and health insurance system in India works. We also discussed the various alternative systems of medicine in India. Some of us remarked that the study was too broadly focussed and the research question was ambiguous.

Akshay was of the opinion that contrary to the paper, his experience showed that the higher income families tend to use only private hospitals only.

We discussed that the researchers had access to a large and unique dataset which could have been analyzed better- effects of distance from healthcare, seasonal diseases, etc were not studied. We noted that the reference to medical insurance firm(s) should have been elaborated more.