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Community Health Information

Gathered through a variety of techniques:
- Observation
- Interview with interpreter

Comparison between rural and urban settings:
- Manikganj (rural farming community)
- Uttara (urban slum area)
Collecting information with an IUBAT nursing student in Manikganj
Different types of housing in villages in Manikganj
Different places for living and cooking and bathroom
Urban slum housing in Uttara, Bangladesh
Note: no available space for crops to grow
Just a few of the available crops around Manikganj
Farmers market in Manikganj
Food available from street vendors
Woman preparing cha in Manikganj
Common Conditions in BOTH Settings

Observed
• Jaundice
• Dental caries
• Stained, missing teeth
• Wounds
• Cough
• Cataracts

Reported
• Diarrhea
• Cough
• Fever
• Rash
Stained, missing teeth

Jaundice in sclera
Brickyards present in both Manikganj (left) and Uttara (below) decrease air quality in rural and urban areas.
Left: water supply in Manikganj

Right: sewage draining along slum housing in Uttara
Above: child’s wound in Manikganj

Below: mother working construction in Uttara
Common Conditions in Rural Setting (Manikganj)

**Observed**
- Generally, children appeared well-nourished

**Reported**
- Differences in most common illness based on season
Common Conditions in Urban Setting (Uttara)

Observed
• Children often appeared malnourished

Reported
• Headache
• Body ache
• Allergies
• Trouble breathing
Nurse must care the patient with her motherly affection & be totally dedicated for tune humanity.
Practice make you skilled & perfect
Nursing in Bangladesh

Staff-to-patient ratios:
- Change throughout the day
- Example: one orthopedic unit generally has a ratio of 15 : 1

Duties:
- Mostly paperwork
- Keep track of all instruments on the unit
- Medication administration (injections), dressing changes, diet monitoring
One study found that only 5.3% of a nurse’s time is spent in direct patient care!
Above: Poster on nursing in CWCH

Right: ICU nurses in ICDDR,B
Who Chooses Nursing?

- Women more often than men
- Lower class citizens
- Low socioeconomic status
- Widows

The nursing profession is looked down upon in both Islam AND Hindu religions
Nurses are often considered no better than prostitutes

In several studies, nurses reported being asked if they had participated in “illicit affairs” with doctors after a night shift
Family Members as “Nurses”

Often the family members do much of the nursing work

When young nurses attempt to follow Western practices, older nurses and other hospital staff often discourage this behavior
References

