

Household Microenvironment and its Impact on Infectious Diseases in India— Evidence from the National Sample Surveys

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Abstract

Household microenvironment like water and sanitation are among some of the key determinants of communicable and infectious diseases like diarrhea, cholera, malaria. This paper analyzes the burden of infectious diseases from household level data and attempts to establish the link between selected diseases and household microenvironmental characteristics. It also studies the treatment-seeking behavior and expenditure on treatment to gauge the potential financial burden for households. The importance of microenvironment for preventing infectious diseases is clear from the findings, and an approach that recognizes the multi-sectoral character of the interventions is suggested to tackle the unfinished agenda of prevention and control of infectious diseases.