



Environmental Factors and Social Medicine, Science Studies

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Abstract

The study of how human health is affected by social and environmental factors is the primary focus of environmental and social medicine. This field recognizes that complex interactions between our social circumstances and our environment are the cause of many of the health issues we face today. The climate alludes to all the physical, natural, and social factors that encompass us, including the air we inhale, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the spots we live and work. On the other hand, social factors include our level of education, cultural background, and social support networks. Environmental and social medicine recognizes the interconnectedness of these factors, which can have a significant impact on our health. Poor air quality, for instance, can exacerbate respiratory diseases, and a lack of access to nutritious food can contribute to obesity and other health issues. Similarly, mental health issues can be made more likely by social factors like poverty and social isolation.

A subfield of medicine known as environmental and social medicine focuses on how health is affected by social and environmental factors. This branch of medicine recognizes that a lot of health issues are brought on by external factors like poverty, air pollution, and contaminated water. Doctors and researchers can work on developing preventative and therapeutic strategies that improve public health outcomes by comprehending the mechanisms by which environmental and social factors affect health.

Keywords: Environmental, Medicine, Science, Health

INTRODUCTION

The identification and treatment of these health issues underlying causes is the objective of environmental and social medicine. Policies and interventions to improve environmental conditions, such as promoting active transportation or reducing pollution, may be necessary. It might also entail addressing social issues like poverty, inequality, and social isolation through policies that encourage access to resources and social justice. Recognizing that different populations may be affected in different ways by environmental and social factors is an important aspect of environmental and social medicine. For instance, individuals living in low-pay areas might be bound to be presented to natural poisons, while individuals in

country regions might have less admittance to medical care assets. Ecological and social medication tries to address these inconsistencies and guarantee that all people have equivalent admittance to assets and valuable open doors that advance wellbeing and prosperity. One more key part of natural and social medication is the acknowledgment that large numbers of the medical conditions we face today are the aftereffect of long haul, combined openings to ecological and social variables (Damle YB, 1967).

For instance, over time, prolonged exposure to pollution in the air can raise the risk of heart disease, and prolonged stress from social and economic hardship can raise the risk of mental health issues. As a result, environmental and social medicine must promote health and wellbeing over the long term rather than simply treating individual health

issues as they arise. The intersection of the environment, social factors, and health is the focus of the interdisciplinary field of environmental social medicine and science. It tries to figure out how social and environmental factors affect human health and well-being and come up with ways to make communities that are sustainable, fair, and healthy (Dunn IN et al., 1992) (Dubois D et al., 1994).

Environmental social medicine and science understand that health is more than just the absence of disease; it is also a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being. It also acknowledges that social factors like poverty, inequality, and discrimination have an impact on people's health as well as the environments in which they live, work, and play. The idea of the "ecological model of health" is one of the most important concepts in environmental social medicine and science. This model acknowledges that individual behaviors, social networks, community norms, and broader environmental and policy factors all have an impact on health outcomes. Researchers and practitioners can develop more effective interventions to improve health outcomes by comprehending these various levels of influence (Dutta M et al., 1998).

DISCUSSION

Recognizing that health disparities are frequently linked to environmental and social factors is another important principle of environmental social medicine and science. Communities of colour and low-income communities, for instance, frequently face disproportionate exposure to environmental dangers like polluted air, toxic waste, and contaminated water. Asthma, cancer, and other chronic diseases are on the rise as a result of these exposures, which can have a significant impact on health. Environmental justice, or the equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens among diverse communities, is the goal of environmental social medicine and science in order to address these disparities. This includes working to address the underlying social and economic factors that contribute to health disparities, promoting community-based participatory research, and advocating for policies and practices that reduce exposure to environmental hazards (Fagot B et al., 1979).

Recognizing the interconnectedness of social and environmental factors is one of the fundamental principles of environmental and social medicine. Environmental factors like air pollution and climate change, for instance, can have a negative impact on health. However, they are also connected to social factors like poverty, race, and ethnicity. Respiratory issues, heart disease, and other health issues are more common among those who live in low-income neighbourhoods or in polluted areas. In a similar vein, climate change has the potential to aggravate existing health issues, particularly in vulnerable groups like children and the elderly. To comprehend the systems through which natural and social variables influence wellbeing, specialists

utilize different logical strategies. Epidemiological studies, which examine disease patterns in populations and identify risk factors associated with increased disease risk, are one approach (Falbo TD et al., 1993).

Clinical trials, animal models, and laboratory studies are additional methods. The release of toxins and pollutants into the environment is one example of a mechanism by which environmental factors can affect health. These toxins can enter the body through the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe. They can cause cancer, neurological disorders, delays in development, and other health issues. Social determinants of health, such as poverty and a lack of access to healthcare, have an impact on health outcomes as another example. Poor people are more likely to have a variety of health issues, such as mental health issues, infectious diseases, and chronic conditions. It is essential to have a solid understanding of the mechanisms by which social and environmental factors affect health in order to develop efficient public health interventions. Public health outcomes, for instance, may benefit from policies that ease access to healthcare or reduce air pollution. In a similar vein, reducing poverty and addressing social inequality can contribute to better health outcomes for vulnerable populations (Grover S, 1987).

Environmental social medicine and science

There are a number of key research areas. These include:

Environmental epidemiology: This field studies the relationship between environmental exposures and health outcomes, such as the link between air pollution and cardiovascular disease.

Social epidemiology: This field focuses on the social determinants of health, such as income, education, and race/ethnicity, and how these factors influence health outcomes.

Environmental health sciences: This field seeks to understand the mechanisms by which environmental exposures affect human health, such as the impact of toxic chemicals on the human body. Health impact assessment: This is a process for evaluating the potential health effects of policies, programs, and projects, and identifying strategies to minimize negative impacts and maximize positive ones (Hetherington E et al., 1979).

CONCLUSION

In general, environmental social medicine and science are essential for comprehending and dealing with the intricate factors that influence human health and well-being. Researchers and practitioners can develop effective strategies to promote health, equity, and sustainability by collaborating with communities and working across disciplines. The vital field of environmental and social medicine recognizes the intricate interactions between social and environmental factors and their effects on human

health. Environmental and social medicine has the potential to improve the health and quality of life of individuals and communities all over the world by addressing the underlying causes of health issues and advocating for policies and procedures that support everyone's health and well-being.

Recognizing the influence of social and environmental factors on health, environmental and social medicine is an important field. Doctors and researchers can work to improve public health outcomes by developing therapeutic and preventative strategies by comprehending the mechanisms by which these factors affect health. To address the complex challenges facing our society and create a healthier, more sustainable future for all, this requires collaboration between scientists, policymakers, and community members (Huston et al., 1991).

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

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