

**ECONOMIC BURDEN OF HEALTHCARE COST ON RURAL  
HOUSEHOLDS – A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON BANGALORE RURAL  
AND URBAN DISTRICT**

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**Summary of the Research**

Economic burden in healthcare refers to the cost of dealing with some specific situations like terminal illness. It creates disease burden and the expenditure on such illness create strong impact on the other expenditures like food, education, recreational etc., of the household. Though Constitution of India has given equal rights of all its resources to the entire population the households, affected with such terminal diseases are always caught into the vicious cycle of poverty. On the other hand, lack of accessibility to facilities at affordable price also affecting their health status. Hence, an approach which appropriately directs the central and state government health care resources to such family will drastically support the family to come out from the poverty cycle. The study on the economic burden of healthcare cost on rural household is more relevant in today's environment because it will lead to the improvement of health condition in rural area by identifying the lapses in the healthcare delivery system to reduce the disease burden in rural India.

**Outcome of the Study**

The outcome of the research project is.

- The study identified the most vulnerable and deprived community which should be focused on terms of healthcare.
- The study suggested a mechanism to reduce the gap between the healthcare need and the healthcare infrastructure in the study area.
- The impact analysis of NHRM and ASHA on the health condition of rural households was carried out to improve the efficiency of the programmes.

The research was explorative in nature with an aim is to explore the current status of healthcare in rural areas and to identify the ways to improve the lapses in the healthcare delivery system. It tried to establish the relationship between healthcare expenditure and economic well-being of the rural community.

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