Unit 16: Introduction to Global Health

Objectives

- Understand broad differences in major health issues between the United States and globally
- Explore issues of global infectious disease
Global Health

- Health conditions can be categorized:
  - Diseases of Poverty
    - Most prevalent among the poor.
    - Poverty is the main risk factor
    - Impediment to economic and social development
  - Diseases of Affluences
    - Prevalent among ‘rich’ countries

Diseases of Poverty

- Contaminated Water Supply
- Inadequate Sanitation
- Poor Nutrition
- Improper Access to Health Care
Contaminated Water Supply

- Many diseases are the result of lack of clean water
  - Cholera, Giardia, E.Coli, Dysentary, Typhoid

- 783 million people who do not have access to clean water

- Women and girls bear undue burden
Inadequate Sanitation

- Sanitation
  - Provision of facilities and services for safe disposal of human urine and feces.
- Burden on women and girls
- Every $1 spent improving sanitation = $9 saved

Poor Nutrition

- Critical part of health and development
- Contributes to 1/3 of child deaths
- Stunting and wasting are key indicators
- Maternal and child under nutrition accounts for 10% of global burden of disease
Improper Access to Health Care

- Social Status
- Geography
- Health Workforce
- Access to Essential Medicines and Equipment

Diseases of Affluence

- Chronic non-Communicable Diseases
- Lifestyle choices related to economic development
  - Less strenuous activity
  - Irregular exercise
  - Access to more food
    - High fat
    - Meat
    - Dairy
  - Greater use of alcohol and tobacco
Infectious Disease

L O W E R  R E S P I R A T O R Y  I N F E C T I O N  
H I V / A I D S  
M A L A R I A  
N E G L E C T E D  T R O P I C A L  D I S E A S E S 

‘Big 3’

Infectious Disease

- Infectious Disease:
  - Illnesses that can be passed to a person from a host.

- Causes 25% of all global deaths
Neglected Tropical Diseases

- **NTDs**
  - Group of tropical infections endemic in low-income countries.
  - Major cause of death and disability
  - Receive less attention
- **Examples:**
  - Chagas disease
  - Leishmaniasis
  - Schistosomiasis

Lower Respiratory Infections

- **6.9%** of all deaths globally
- Indoor air quality contributes to **36%** lower-respiratory infections
- Women are at **50%** higher risk for LRI because of domestic duties
Global Prevalence of HIV/AIDS

Women and HIV/AIDS

- In SSA women account for 60% of all cases

- Women’s HIV issues:
  - Vertical transmission in pregnancy
  - Serodiscordance
  - Stigma and fear of disclosure
  - Problems accessing HIV care
Prevalence of Malaria

- 300-500 million infections yearly
  - Africa accounts 80% of infection
  - 3% of global deaths

- At risk:
  - Pregnant women
  - Young children
Prevention of Malaria

- Insecticide Treated Nets
- Preventive Medications
  - Drug resistance is an issue
- Early treatment of malaria symptoms

Class Wrap-Up

- **Key Words:**
  - Developing Economy, Diseases of Poverty and Affluence, Big 3
- **Individual Importance:**
  - A woman’s gender puts her at unfair disadvantage for many of the diseases of poverty
- **Public Health Importance:**
  - In global health, diseases are generally divided between diseases of poverty and affluence
- **Socio/Economic Importance:**
  - The health of a country is strongly correlated with its economic development