



SNS COLLEGE OF NURSING



COIMBATORE-35.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING-I

Course: II YEAR BSc Nursing

Unit III : EPIDEMIOLOGY

Topic: EPIDEMIOLOGICAL APPROACH

S.BHARATHI

VICE PRINCIPAL



CASE SCENARIO

Morbidity rate is increased in rural Primary Health Centre .How will you study the Prevalence and incidence of any disease ?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The students will be able to:

- define epidemiology
- state the approaches of epidemiology
- mention about the epidemiological triad
- describe the agent, host and environmental factors of epidemiological triad

INTRODUCTION

Classically speaking

- Epi = upon/ among
- Demos = people
- Ology = science or study
- Epidemiology = the science which deals with what falls upon people.....
- Bridge between biomedical, social and behavioral sciences



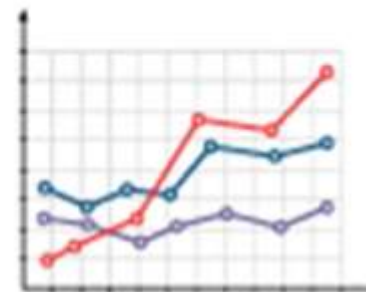
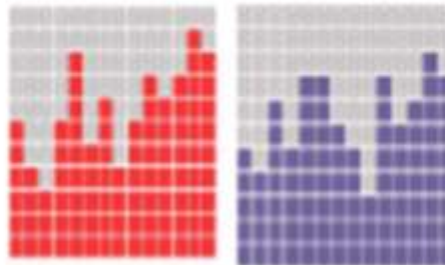
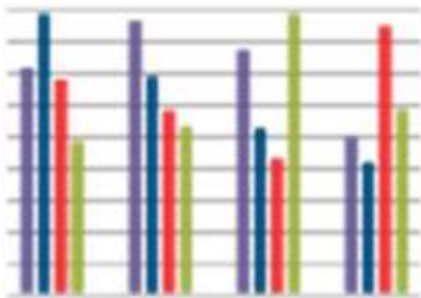
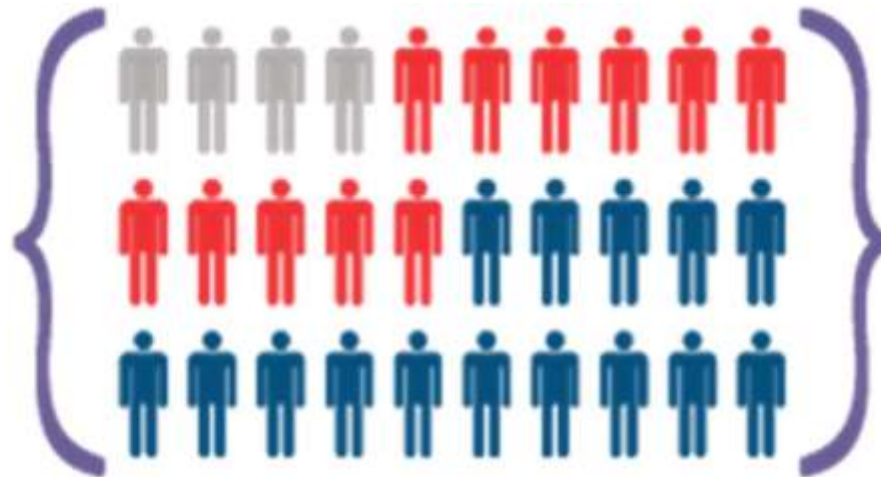
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DEFINITION

The study of the distribution and determinants of health related states or events in a specified populations, and the application of this study to prevent and control of health problems

- John M Last(1988)

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL APPROACH





EPIDEMIOLOGICAL APPROACH-Cont...ed

- The epidemiological approach to problems of health and disease is based on two major foundations.
- Another alternative is standardization which usually has a limited application to a few characteristics such as age, sex, and parity.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL APPROACH contd.,



Asking Questions



Making comparisons

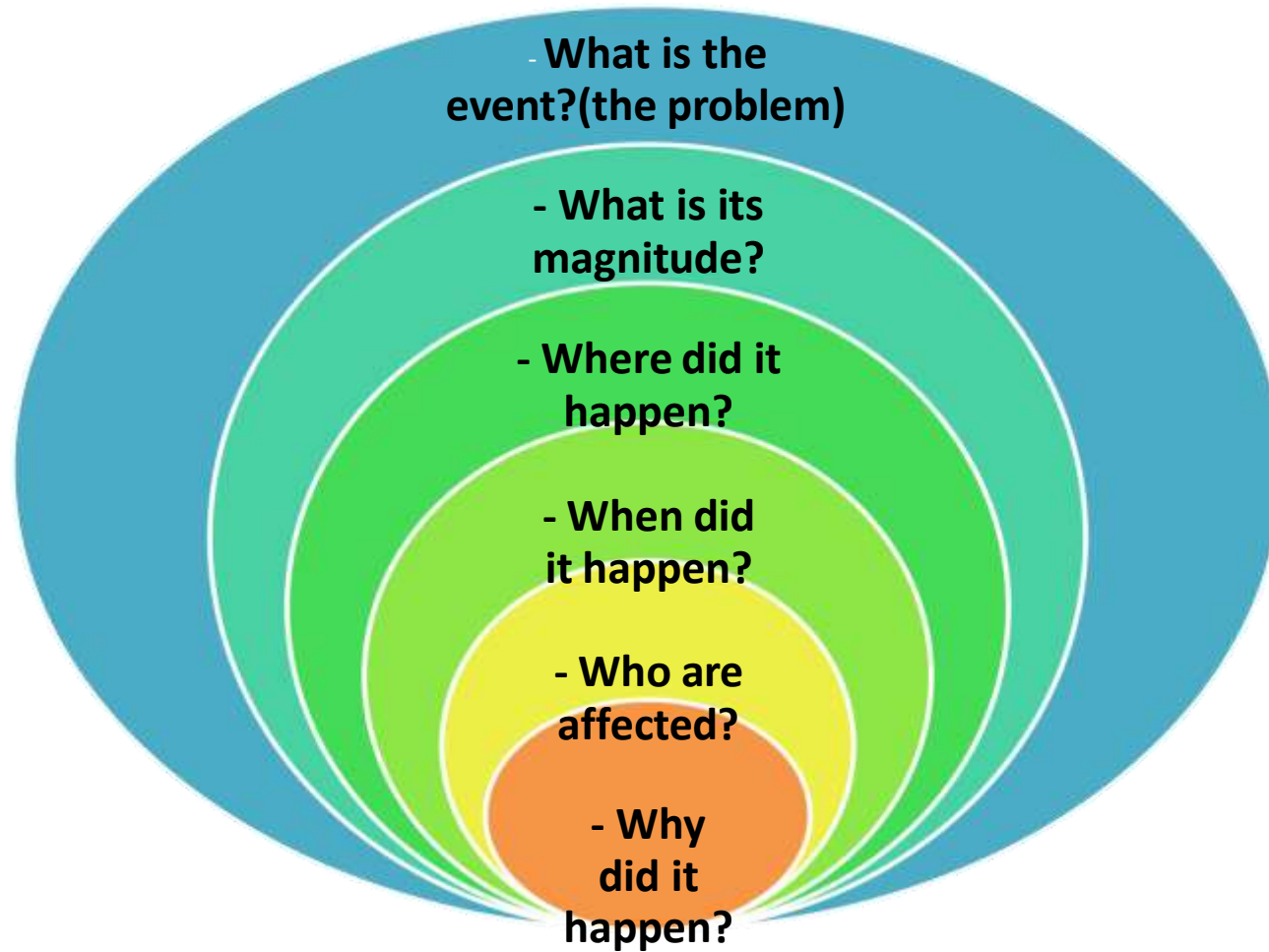


ASKING QUESTIONS

- Epidemiology has been defined as “a means of learning or asking questions... and getting answers that lead to further questions”. For example the following questions could be asked

- 1.Related to health event
- 2.Related to health Action

HEALTH EVENT



3.1.2 HEALTH ACTION

What can be done to reduce this problem and its consequences?

How can it be prevented in the future?

What action should be taken by the community? By the health services? By other sectors? Where and for whom these activities be carried out?

What resources are required? How are the activities to be organized?

What difficulties may arise, and how might they be overcome?

3.1. ASKING QUESTIONS contd.,

- Answer to the above questions may provide clues to disease etiology, and help the epidemiologist to guide planning and evaluation.

3.2 MAKING COMPARISONS

- The basic approach in epidemiology is to make comparisons and draw inferences
- This may be comparison of two (or more groups)- one group having the disease (or exposed to risk factor) and the other groups not having the disease (or not exposed to risk factor) or comparison between individuals

3.2 MAKING COMPARISONS contd.,

- In short epidemiologist weighs, balances and contrasts.
- Clues to etiology come from such comparisons.
- One of the first considerations before making comparisons is to ensure what is known as “comparability” between the study and control groups which means both the groups should be similar so that ‘like can be compared with like’.
- For facts to be comparable, they must be accurate and they must be gathered in a uniform way.

SUMMARY

- Man today is viewed as an agent of his own diseases, his state of health is determined more by what he does to himself than what some outside germ or infectious agent does to him.
- The epidemiologist are so much concerned with psychosocial environment as with physical or biological environment in search of etiological causes of disease

REFERENCES

- K.PARK, “Essentials of Community Health Nursing” Banarsidas Bhanot Publishers, 20th edition
- Prof.Dr.E. Vijay, “Textbook of Community Medicine” 2nd edition, Beacon zen publishers
- Kasthuri Sundar Rao, “Introduction to community Health Nursing”, 4th edition B.I. Publications

EXPECTED QUESTIONS

Essay: (15 marks)

- Describe about the Epidemiological Approach in detail

Short Notes: (5 marks)

- Explain about the approaches of epidemiology
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