

Current Affairs of the Day

The Onus of contraception still on women, NFHS-5 figures show

1. Less than one in 10 men use condoms in India, while nearly four in 10 women undergo sterilisation to avoid pregnancy, according to the latest National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21), which also shows that female sterilisation continues to be on the rise.

Contraception choice

While the share of men using condoms increased in NFHS-5 (2019-20) from NFHS-4 (2015-16), the percentage of women undergoing sterilisation also rose in the same period



all figures in %

| Method | Urban | Rural | Total (NFHS-5) | NFHS-4 |
|----------------------|-------|-------|----------------|--------|
| Female sterilisation | 36.3 | 38.7 | 37.9 | 36 |
| Condom | 13.6 | 7.6 | 9.5 | 5.6 |
| Pill | 4.4 | 5.4 | 5.1 | 4.1 |
| IUD/PPIUD | 2.7 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.5 |
| Male sterilisation | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |

2. Only 9.5% of men used condoms but 37.9% of women underwent sterilisation, according to the NFHS.

3. Though condom use in urban India is better than in rural parts, the overall trend is vastly similar — 7.6% of men in rural India and 13.6% of men in urban India use condoms, while 38.7% women in rural India and 36.3% in urban India underwent sterilisation.

4. Female sterilisation has gone up for the entire country from 36% in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 37.9% in NFHS-5.

Many stereotypes

1. Condom usage is also low because family planning is considered the responsibility of women.

2. Male sterilisation's share in family planning methods has always been extremely low, despite the fact that it's safer, quicker and easier.

3. People believe that it can affect their virility and weaken them physically, rendering them unfit to work. These are myths and misconceptions that need to be addressed.



4. Female sterilisation is also the preferred choice of contraception over methods such as pills (5.1%), injectables (0.6%) and intrauterine devices (IUD) and post-partum intra-uterine devices (2.1%).
5. Most women tend to think of family planning, not for delaying and spacing but for completing the family size, though the trend is changing.

Omicron risks spark call for a booster dose

1. With the emergence of Omicron and its virulence yet uncertain, concerns have emerged about whether the third dose of COVID-19 vaccines should be administered in India.
2. The United States and the United Kingdom have approved booster doses for all adults, six months after the completion of their second dose. In the U.K., however, it is restricted to those 40 and above, or those with clinical conditions that suppress their natural immunity.
3. These recommendations build from research suggesting that two weeks after a booster, the chances of being protected from symptomatic COVID increase.
4. Compared with people who got only two doses five months prior, those who got three doses of the vaccine had a 93% lower risk of COVID-19-related hospitalisation, 92% lower risk of severe COVID-19 disease, and 81% lower risk of COVID-19-related death.
5. Vaccine effectiveness appeared consistent across sexes and age groups (ages 40-69 and 70-plus) and a number of comorbidities.

Per capita, out-of-pocket health expenditure sees decline: report

1. Out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) as a share of total health expenditure and foreign aid for health has both come down as per the findings of the National Health Accounts (NHA) estimates for India for 2017-18.
2. As a share of total health expenditure, the OOPE has come down to 48.8% in 2017-18 from 64.2% in 2013-14. Even in the case of per capita OOPE, there has been a decline from ₹2,336 to ₹2,097 between 2013-14 and 2017-18.



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3. One of the factors attributing to this decline is the increase in utilisation and reduction in the cost of services in Government health facilities.

Govt. support

1. The NHA estimates for 2017-18 clearly showed that there had been an increase in the share of government health expenditure in the total GDP of the country. It has increased from 1.15% in 2013-14 to 1.35% in 2017-18.
2. Additionally, the share of Government Health Expenditure in total health expenditure has also increased over time. In 2017-18, the share of Government expenditure was 40.8%, which is much higher than 28.6% in 2013-14.
3. Also the share of social security expenditure on health, which includes the social health insurance programme, Government financed health insurance schemes, and medical reimbursements made to Government employees has increased.

| MAINS DAWP | <i>Q1. Discuss the role that Green hydrogen can play in India's goal of achieving net-zero emission by 2070.</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------|--------------|---|----------------|----------------|---|---------------|--------------|
| MCQs | <p><i>Q1. Which of the following is/are correctly matched?</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%;">Type of Hydrogen</th> <th style="width: 55%;">Energy Used in Production</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td>Blue hydrogen</td> <td>Tidal energy</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td>Green hydrogen</td> <td>Solar and Wind</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td>Grey hydrogen</td> <td>Fossil Fuels</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Select the correct answer from the codes given below</i></p> <p><i>a. 1 and 2 only</i> <i>b. 2 and 3 only</i> <i>c. 3 only</i> <i>d. 1, 2 and 3</i></p> | | Type of Hydrogen | Energy Used in Production | 1 | Blue hydrogen | Tidal energy | 2 | Green hydrogen | Solar and Wind | 3 | Grey hydrogen | Fossil Fuels |
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