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European Conference on PSYCHIATRY

July 25, 2022 | Webinar

ISSUES OF MIGRANT WORKERS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Once Covid-19 cases were starting to get detected in India, Government of India went forward with nationwide Lockdown to restrict the transmission of Covid-19. As Lockdown settled down, Migrant workers wear seen struggling the most due to loss of their job followed by no money and place to stay which made them move back to their native place. Objective was to find out the problems faced by Migrant workers Qualitative study was conducted from 30th April to 8th May period when the Government of India ordered to conduct Camps for Migrant workers. To take care of above, a team of Community Medicine, Psychiatric Doctors along with Male Social Worker went to different sites of PCMC area and investigated the status of more than 1000 Migrant worker's physical and mental well-being. Problems which were common in all the sites were lack of nutritious meal. Majority of the sites were providing only one meal a day which was a Govt initiative. Social distancing and hand hygiene which was need of the hour, never got due respect in sites due to overcrowding and lack of water respectively. Mental and Emotional stress were seen more in workers who were away from their family. Few also showed symptoms of anxiety and depression for which psychological counselling, stress management technique was demonstrated whereas physically they were felling weak, for which proper diet had been recommended to the higher authorities and also highlighted the importance of social distancing and hand hygiene to them.

Biography

Biswajit Chaklader is a final year post graduate student of community medicine. Has published 3 papers as a primary investigator and another 3 papers as a statistician. Has working experience as a Zero-surveillance officer and also did a survey amongst migrant workers during initial days of lockdown.