

### RESEARCH STUDIES SERIES



#### Disability Amongst the Elderly in Sri Lanka

COMPARISON OF DISABILITY RATES IN THE CENSUSES OF 1981 AND 2001

W Indralal De Silva, W P Amarabandu, H R Gunasekera

Systematic and reliable data on actual trends in disability are scarce and limited. To address this gap, the Institute for Health Policy commissioned this study to analyze the data collected on disability in the two last national population censuses. The study, undertaken by experts from the Department of Census and Statistics and the University of Colombo, shows that the incidence of disability in Sri Lanka has increased during the period 1981 to 2001. It analyzes the pattern of disability by district and by type, and reveals that disability rates have increased dramatically among the elderly primarily due to exogenous factors, whilst disabilities at birth have declined significantly. It concludes that disability rates are likely to increase in future.

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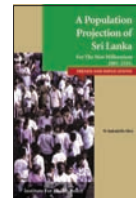
#### Sri Lanka: "Good Practice" in Expanding Health Care Coverage

Ravi P Rannan-Eliya, Lankani Sikurajapathy

This World Bank-sponsored analysis provides an in-depth assessment of how Sri Lanka managed to extend healthcare coverage to all its citizens, despite limited levels of healthcare spending and low-income status. It was part of a global study that examined experiences in nine countries that the World Bank identified as having exceptional success in expanding healthcare coverage. The publication analyzes how Sri Lanka's success was due to a cost-effective health system that relies on taxation as the chief source of public financing. The study also discusses how the system of parallel public and private sectors may have been the best option for Sri Lanka, given the financial constraints that the government faced, as well as how the public sector will need to be strengthened in future.

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### BOOKS & MONOGRAPHS



#### A Population Projection of Sri Lanka

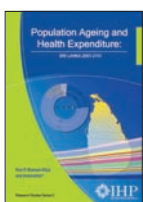
For The New Millenium 2001-2101: Trends and Implications

W Indralal De Silva

Sri Lanka's population is ageing faster than in almost any other country. Having good estimates of the likely growth in the population and changes in its age structure are a vital need for effective development planning. Recognizing this, IHP commissioned these new population projections for Sri Lanka. They use for the first time a time horizon of 100 years, which is increasingly needed for analyses of issues such as pensions. Developed in 2006, they make use of the most recent data on fertility and mortality trends, including the results of the 2001 Census and the 2001-2004 data on deaths, births and migration. The publication provides extensive discussion of the available data, and provides detailed tables of the population structure to 2001 under three different scenarios.

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### HEALTH EXPENDITURE SERIES



#### Population Ageing and Health Expenditure

SRI LANKA 2001-2101

Ravi P Rannan-Eliya

There is increasing concern in Sri Lanka about the cost implications of population ageing for the health sector, and its ability to meet future patient demands. To understand this challenge better, IHP developed a health expenditure model to forecast future trends. This model uses an actuarial-cost projection technology, similar to that used in developed nations, such as the UK and USA, which considers factors such as future changes in population, changes in patient behaviour, productivity changes, and medical price inflation. The results show that whilst ageing will add to future healthcare costs, the overall impact will be relatively small in comparison with other factors. The publication explores the impact of policy changes, and points to the need for national policy to focus on the productivity of health providers, as well as increasing public financing.

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#### Sri Lanka Health Accounts

National Health Expenditure 1990-2006

Tharanga Fernando, Ravi P Rannan-Eliya, J M H Jayasundara

This publication examines expenditure on health in Sri Lanka from 1990-2006, presenting the latest estimates of health spending from Sri Lanka's health accounts. Total health spending in 2006 reached Rs 117.9 billion, which was equivalent to 4.2% of GDP, and Rs 5,926 per capita. Government financed 49% of this, whilst the remaining 50% was financed by private sources, and 1% by donor agencies. The publication describes the trends in total and per capita spending from 1990, the pattern of financing by source (public and private), the levels in each province and district, and use of spending by function and provider. It also provides a detailed comparison of the levels and patterns of spending in Sri Lanka with other countries. A statistical annex presents detailed tables of health expenditures in all years using the international SHA framework to aid international comparisons of spending.

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### HEALTH STATISTICS REPORTS



#### Public Hospital Inpatient Discharge Survey 2005

Chamikara Perera, Ravi P. Rannan-Eliya, Sunil Senanayake, Shanti Dalpatadu, Hirushaka de Silva and Ruki Wijesinghe

This first issue in IHP's new Health Statistics Reports Series presents a wide range of data on the characteristics of hospital discharges from government hospitals in 2005. There were a total of 4.3 million inpatients discharged in that year, with an average length of stay of 4.2 days. Using a specially designed survey of inpatient records, data were collected, and are presented on the profile of these admissions by cause of admission (ICD-10), sex and age-group, and length of stay. Significant variations in length of stay are found by cause of admission. Details are given for all hospitals, and also for different levels of hospital facilities. Two additional sets of tables describe the pattern of medicines prescribed, and compare hospital discharge rates for selected diseases with those in other countries.

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A T P L Abeykoon, R Elwalagedera

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