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# Convergence of Health, Education, and Rural Development

- ▶ Health, education, rural, and women development sectors are interconnected, and their collaboration is crucial for addressing systemic inequalities.
- ▶ For example, lack of education often leads to poor health outcomes, while inadequate health infrastructure affects rural development. Women's empowerment through education and economic participation also significantly impacts community health.
- ▶ This section emphasizes the need for multi-sectoral approaches, such as integrating health awareness campaigns in schools or linking sanitation initiatives with menstrual health programs.
- ▶ Collaborative strategies ensure holistic development, addressing root causes and improving outcomes in a sustainable manner.

# Challenging Stereotypes in Women's Health

- ▶ Stereotypical perceptions often limit the scope of women's health to maternal and reproductive issues, ignoring mental health, GBV, and non-communicable diseases.
- ▶ This section advocates for breaking these stereotypes by promoting awareness and diversifying healthcare services. Women should have access to comprehensive healthcare, from cardiovascular care to mental health support.
- ▶ Including men and the broader community in these conversations ensures that women's health is viewed as a shared societal responsibility.
- ▶ By challenging outdated notions, we can redefine healthcare priorities to better serve women's diverse needs.

# Incorporating Menstrual Health into Sanitation Policies

- ▶ Menstrual health is often overlooked in sanitation policies, yet it is critical to women's health and dignity.
- ▶ This section highlights programs like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which aim to improve sanitation infrastructure but often neglect menstrual hygiene needs.
- ▶ It advocates for including affordable and accessible sanitary products, waste management systems, and education about menstruation within these frameworks.
- ▶ Success stories, such as localized pad-making initiatives, illustrate how menstrual health can be seamlessly integrated into broader sanitation goals.
- ▶ By prioritizing this issue, policymakers can address a significant gap in women's health equity.

# Adolescent Health Initiatives

- ▶ Adolescence is a transformative stage with unique health needs.
- ▶ Programs like Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) address challenges such as nutritional deficiencies, mental health, substance abuse, and reproductive health.
- ▶ This section discusses the importance of age-appropriate education, peer counseling, and safe spaces for adolescents.
- ▶ Special attention is given to teenage pregnancy, early marriage, and GBV, which disproportionately affect girls.
- ▶ Addressing these issues requires empowering adolescents with knowledge, access to services, and community support.
- ▶ Collaborative efforts between schools, families, and healthcare providers are essential to foster healthy transitions to adulthood.

# Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART)

- ▶ Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) provide solutions for individuals facing infertility or reproductive challenges, including same-sex couples and transgender individuals.
- ▶ This section explores the ethical, financial, and societal implications of ART, such as surrogacy and IVF.
- ▶ While these technologies offer hope, they often remain inaccessible due to high costs and limited awareness.
- ▶ The need for affordable, inclusive policies to support diverse families is emphasized.
- ▶ ART also raises questions about societal norms around parenthood, making it a pivotal topic in conversations about health and gender equity.

# Conclusion



- ▶ The final section summarizes the key points of the presentation, reiterating the importance of integrating gender perspectives into health policies and practices.
- ▶ It emphasizes the need for collaboration across sectors to address disparities and promote equity.
- ▶ The audience is encouraged to take actionable steps, such as raising awareness, advocating for policy reforms, and supporting marginalized communities.
- ▶ Ending on a hopeful and proactive note, this section inspires participants to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable healthcare system.