Biomedical Engineering for Global Health

Lecture Three: Leading Causes of Mortality, Ages 15-44





Review of Lecture Two: Leading Causes of Mortality, Birth-Age 4

- Developing world
 - 1. Perinatal conditions
 - 2. Lower respiratory infections
 - 3. Diarrheal diseases
 - 4. Malaria
- Developed world
 - 1. Perinatal conditions
 - 2. Congenital anomalies
 - 3. Lower respiratory infections
 - 4. Unintentional injuries



1. Perinatal Conditions

Question: What is the #1 way to prevent septicemia in a newborn in the developing world?

2. Lower Respiratory Infections



 Question: How can a busy health worker (or a parent) *quickly* screen for pneumonia in a child?

3. Diarrheal Diseases



Question: What is the #1 way to prevent diarrheal illness in a newborn?



Leading Causes of Mortality Ages 15-44

- Developing World
 - 1. HIV/AIDS
 - 2. Unintentional injuries
 - 3. Cardiovascular diseases
 - 4. Tuberculosis
- Developed World
- 1. Unintentional injuries
- 2. Cardiovascular diseases
- 3. Cancer
- 4. Self-inflicted injuries

1. HIV/AIDS

- Burden of HIV/AIDS
- Pathophysiology of HIV
- Clinical course of HIV/AIDS
- Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy
- Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT)

Burden of HIV/AIDS

Worldwide

- 33.2 million people are living with HIV/AIDS
- 20 million people have been killed by the disease
- **2007**:
 - 2.1 million deaths
 - 2.5 million new HIV infections
 - 17% of new infections occurred in children (<15 yrs)
- 2/3 of those with AIDS and 3/4 of all AIDS deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa
- 6800 new infections per day
 - 96% in low- and middle-income countries
 - 1200 children
 Source: 2007 AIDS Epidemic Update, UNAIDS/WHO



Burden of HIV/AIDS in the U.S.

- 1.2 million people have HIV/AIDS (prevalence)
- 30,000-40,000 new infections per year (incidence)
- Only 7 countries in the world have more people living with HIV than the U.S.
- Routes of transmission:
 - Unsafe sex between men (53%)
 - Unprotected heterosexual intercourse (32%)
 - Non-sterile drug injection equipment (18%)

Source: 2007 AIDS Epidemic Update, UNAIDS/WHO

Burden of HIV/AIDS in the U.S.

- Racial and ethnic minorities are disproportionately affected:
 - 48% of AIDS diagnoses are African-Americans (15% pop)
 - The rate of new HIV diagnoses was 21x higher in African-American women than in Caucasian women
- Women are increasingly affected:
- The proportion of women among new HIV/AIDS diagnoses have risen from 15% to 26% in 10 years
- Question: Why is the prevalence of HIV in the U.S. continuing to increase?

Source: 2007 AIDS Epidemic Update, UNAIDS/WHO













HIV/AIDS Therapy

- Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (1987)
 Enzyme is specific to HIV
 - Combinations of RTIs appear effective
- HIV Protease Inhibitors (1995)
 - HIV proteases are distinct from mammalian proteases
 Most significant advance in HIV therapy yet
- Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART)
 - Combination of three or more drugs
- Fusion inhibitor (2003)
- Integrase inhibitor (2007)









Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT)

- 3 routes of transmission:
 - Parentally (during pregnancy)
 - Perinatally (during delivery)
 - Breast feeding (through milk)
- 4 Core interventions:
 - HIV testing and counseling
 - ARV prophylaxis (ZDV, NVP)
 - Safer delivery practices
 - Safer infant-feeding practices
- Reduces transmission from 30-40% to 4-6%



2. Unintentional Injuries

- Burden of Unintentional Injuries
- Accident Physics
- Slowed Driver Reaction Time
- Prevention of Road Accidents

Burden of Unintentional Injuries

- More than 1.25 million people ages 15-44 die from unintentional injuries each year
- 1 million deaths in developing countries, 1/4 million in developed countries
- 40x this number are injured
- Major cause of disability
- Leading cause is *road accidents*:
 - 500,000 deaths per year in this age group
 - 90% of these deaths occur in developing countries

Burden of Unintentional Injuries

- Road Accidents in the U.S.
 - Rates declining steadily
 - A leading cause of potential years of life lost

2006:

- 42,642 Americans killed
- 2,699,000 Americans injured
- Fatal accident rates 3X higher for males than for females
- Motorcycles: 40X higher death rate per mile traveled
- 39% of fatalities related to alcohol use

Accident Physics

- Newton's 2nd Law:
 - F = m a
 - a = dv/dt
 - a = initial velocity/time to come to rest
- In a crash:
 - Velocity slows to zero in a very short timeGenerates large forces
 - How can we reduce these forces?
- 1. Reduce initial velocity of impact
 - 2. Extend time that it takes passengers to come to rest



Slowed Driver Reaction Time • When drivers anticipate a crash, they have time to brake and reduce initial velocity Factors which slow driver reaction time: Alcohol use

- Mobile phone use
- Poor visibility
- Driver inexperience



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Slowed Driver Reaction Time Mobile phone use:

- At any given daylight moment in US: 10% of drivers are using a cell phone
- Increases driver reaction time by 0.5-1.5 seconds
- Risk of crash is 4X higher when using a mobile phone
- Same as driving with a BAC of 0.09 g/ dl
- 4 states and D.C. have banned use of hand held phones while driving (NY, NJ, CT, CA)
 - Partial bans in AR, AZ, FL, GA, IL, ME, MA, MN, NH, NM, OH, PA, TN, VA, WA



Child restraints:

0.04 BAC!

Reduce risk of infant death by 71% and toddler death by 54%

Prevention of Road Accidents

- Legislation:
 - Speed
 - Seat belts, Car seats, Air Bags
 - Alcohol use
 - Motorcycle helmets
- Engineering:
- Restraints
 - Safety standards
- Education:
 - Seat belts, Car seats, Air Bags
 - Alcohol use

3. Cardiovascular Diseases

- 768,000 people ages 15-44 die as a result of cardiovascular disease every year
- Most common causes:
 - Ischemic heart disease (286,000 deaths)
 - Cerebrovascular disease (159,000 deaths)
- Will be covered in depth in *Lecture 4*



4. Tuberculosis

- Burden of Tuberculosis
- TB Pathophysiology
- Diagnosis of Tuberculosis
- Directly Observed Therapy

Burden of Tuberculosis

- Bacterial infection of the lungs caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Bacterium infects 1 in 3 people on the planet
- Drugs that cure TB were discovered in 1940s
- Results in death in 5 years in half of cases if untreated
- Kills 600,000 people ages 15-44 each year
- Estimated that TB will kill 35 million people in next 20 years if situation does not change
- 2005:
 - 8.8 million new cases (incidence)
 - Growing 1%/year1.6 million deaths
- 98% of deaths occur in developing world









Diagnosis of Tuberculosis In test (PPD) rum test est X-ray shows nodules in active TB utum Acid-fast bacilli Image: Acid fast bacilli Image

Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)

- A health care worker watches and helps as the patient swallows anti-TB medicines in his/her presence.
- DOT shifts responsibility for cure from patient to health care system
- Requires political commitment, accurate diagnosis, quality drugs, observation, follow up
- DOT works well in many developing countries

Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)

- 6 month supply is \$10
- Cure rates of up to 95% even in poorest countries
- 17 million patients worldwide have been treated with DOT since 1995
- 25% of world's population does not have access to DOT.

Leading Causes of Mortality Ages 15-44

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3. Cancer

- 580,000 people ages 15-44 die as a result of cancer every year
- Most common causes:
 - Liver Cancer (68,000 deaths per year)
 - Leukemias (65,000)
 - Stomach Cancer (58,000)
 - Breast Cancer (57,000)
- Will be covered in depth in Lecture 4

4. Self-Inflicted Injuries

- Burden of Self-Inflicted Injuries
- Risk Factors Associated with Suicide
- Methods of Suicide
- Screening and Prevention

Burden of Self-Inflicted Injuries

- 480,000 people ages 15-44 take their own lives each year (4th leading cause of death)
- Unipolar depressive disorder ranks #1 for DALYs in this age group in developed countries
 - Second to HIV/AIDS in developing countries
- Highest rate of completed suicides
 - Men >65 years old
- Highest rate of attempted suicides
 - Men and women ages 20-24

Risk Factors Associated with Suicide

- Psychiatric illness
 - Affective, substance abuse, personality, other mental disorders
- Other risk factors
 - Social adjustment problems
 - Serious medical illness
 - Living alone
 - Recent bereavement
 - Personal history of suicide attempt or completion
 - Divorce or separation
 - Unemployment

Methods of Suicide

- Most common:
 - Firearms are used in 60% of suicides
- 2nd leading cause:
 - Men: Hanging
 - Women: Drug overdose or poison
- Alcohol is involved in 25-40% of suicides
- Women attempt suicide more often; men are more often successful

Screening and Prevention

- 50-66% of all suicide victims visit physician <1 month before event
- 10-40% in the preceding week
- Hard to identify who is at risk
 - Direct questioning has low yield
 - General questions about sleep disturbance, depressed mood, guilt and hopelessness
 - Survey instruments aren't good at predicting what will happen

Screening and Prevention

- How do we quantify the efficacy of such questionnaires?
 - Goal of screening:
 - Catch as many positives as possible, even at the risk of some false positives
 - Sensitivity:
 - $\hfill \ensuremath{\,\bullet\)}$ Se = probability of testing positive if you will commit suicide
 - Sensitivity of best questionnaires: 56% (low)

Screening and Prevention

- How many false positives result?
 - Positive predictive value:
 - PPV=probability of committing suicide if you test positive
 - PPV of best questionnaires: 3% (pathetic)

Summary of Lecture 3

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