



**International Webinar**  
**On**  
**“Social Determinants of Health and Health Seeking Behaviour towards Health Equity: with Special Reference to Elderly People of Mountain Regions”**

**29-30, November, 2021**

United Nations (UN) declared the current decade (2021-2030) for ‘*Healthy Ageing*’ and further World Health Organization (WHO) dedicated this World Health Day with a theme ‘*Towards a Fairer and Healthier World*’. These developments at international level show their respective commitment towards addressing the Social Determinants of Health towards health equity and minimizing the health disparities among all the people of the world.

This phenomenon again remembers us the declaration of WHO mandated for ‘*Health for All by 2000*’, by World Health Assembly on Primary Health Care at Alma-Ata then USSR in 1978. At the International level the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) and Health Seeking Behaviour (HSB) has been recognized and studies some three decades ago, hence the problems were addressed rapidly in most of western countries.

In a country like India, which has diverse culture and socio-economic status; implementing ‘*Health for All*’ is a huge task. It can only be possible by determining the health behavior of this diverse population. Health behavior is a wide concept and refers to series of actions taken to correct the perceived ill-health. These actions which are taken to fight illness depend on the perceptions, interpretations, and behavior pattern and are highly individualized. With limited manpower and resources in field of health, it becomes pertinent to understand the health-care-seeking behavior of the population to formulate health system, policies, and programs. Health system needs to plan their strategies based on the behavior of the population which can be obtained from the findings from such behavioral studies.

Health Seeking Behaviour of a person is affected by number of factors acting at various levels such as individual, family, and community. The health-care seeking, public or private, depends on socio-demographic characteristics, literacy, cultural practices, economic conditions, issues of accessibility and quality, gender discrimination, status of women, economic and political systems, environmental conditions, and the disease pattern and health-care system itself.

For the First time in history, expectancy to live in their sixties and beyond is believed by most of the people. It is estimated that population aged 60 years and older is expected to total 2 billion by 2050, 80% of all older people will live in low and middle-income countries. United Nations has provided a detail report, and estimated that the population will rapidly increase and increase in life expectancy leads to more ageing and older population will increase in near future.

Therefore, under the proposed sponsorship of ICSSR, Ministry of Education, Government of India, the School of Social Sciences, Uttarakhand Open University in association with Himalayan Social Sciences & Health Research Institute(HIM-SHRI) are convening an International Webinar on “*Social Determinants of Health and Health Seeking Behaviour towards Health Equity: with Special Reference to Elderly People of Mountain Regions*” during 29-30 November,2021, so, the issues of the elderly people of the mountain regions of Uttarakhand with a broader scope of other ten mountain states of India, along with at the similar mountain regions of the world could be addressed and a vast policy on elderly people’s health may ascertain through the fulfillment of their regional needs in India and South East Asian countries, particularly of mountain regions.

The seminar will be conducted on virtual mode from Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani with following five key scientific penal sessions.

1. Healthy Ageing towards a Fairer and Healthier World: An Overview
2. Social Determinants of Health towards Health Equity among Elderly People: South East Asian Perspective
3. Health Seeking Behaviour among Elderly People : An Analysis
4. Socio-Economic and Mental State of Elderly People during Pandemics: A Holistic Perspective
5. Open Session (Dedicated for COVID-19 issues on the society around the world.)

**(Hari S. Bisht)**  
Convener for the Webinar

### **Registration form link**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGh7AqePIQLCXXqh9whvG-yX0Kv7UkvyI3-yoXqq8lByl4yA/viewform>

## **Zoom Meeting Link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88517198313?pwd=QW96VFdPSHhncUNjcSs0cy9EaStSZz0>

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Meeting ID: 885 1719 8313

Passcode: 580663