ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# MORBIDITY PATTERN OF TSUNAMI AFFECTED POPULATION IN CUDDALORE DISTRICT

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**ABSTRACT:**

They are Malaria, dengue, diarrhoea, jaundice, cholera.In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catchers (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S), Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and others (O) are explained. Out of all the four categories the Fish Catchers (F.C) are most affected which 39 respondents among the major 5 acute disease followed by Fish Sellers (F.S) with 29 respondents and Fisher Catchers Cum Government Employees (Fc.G) 23 respondents. They are diabetes, Heart Problem, leprosy, cancer, asthma. In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catches (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S), Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and others (O) are explain. Out of all the four categories, the Others (O) are most affected with 20 respondents among the major five chronic diseases followed by Fish Catchers Come Government employees (Fc.G) with 18 respondents and Fish Catchers (F.C) 16 respondents.The study has taken two types of disease namely acute disease and chronic disease and examine the morbidity pattern of two major groups namely, (Pichavaram) less Tsunami affected population (Devanampattinam) highly Tsunami affected population.

**KEY WORDS:** morbidity pattern, Pichavaram, Devanampattinam, acute disease, Tsunami affected population.

## INTRODUCTION

A Tsunami is a very large wave.Otherwise called"tidal waves". Tsunami is a Japanese word with the English translation, "Harbour wave" represented by two characters, the top character, "tsu",means harbour, while the bottom character, "nami", means"wave". On 26 December 2004 Tsunami occured in Tamilnadu. The coastal area of Tamilnadu was mostly affected because of Tsunami. The most affected region is Cuddalore district. So the study has taken the Cuddalore District as the area. Out of which Devanampattinam was selected as highly affected region and Pichavaram is selected as less affected region.

**OBJECTIVES**

Objective of the study is to find the morbidity pattern of less affected region (Pichavaram) and highly affected region (Devanampattinam) respondents in the study area.

**METHODOLOGY**

The total number of respondents selected for the study is 200. Out of which hundred samples are from highly affected village Devanampattinam in Cuddalore district and another under respondents are from less affected village Pichavaram in Cuddalore district. Among the highly affected village population and less affected village (Pichavaram) population the has taken 4 categories in such a way that the respondents are given equal weight age. In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catchers (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S), Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and others (O) are explained. The acute disease malaria, dengue, jaundice, cholera. The chronic diseases are diabetes, heart problem, leprosy, cancer, asthma.

**Table: 1**
**Distribution of Sample Respondents**

| Categories | Highly Affected Village Devanampattinam | Less Affected Village Pichavaram | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Catchers | 25 | 25 | 50 |
| Fish Sellers | 25 | 25 | 50 |
| Fishers Cum Government Employees | 25 | 25 | 50 |
| Other Service | 25 | 25 | 50 |
| Grant Total | 100 | 100 | 200 |

**Source:** Computed.

The following are the details of the categories; 1.Fish Catchers (F.C)with 25 respondents in highly affected(Devanampattinam) region and 25 respondents in less affected village(Pichavaram ) totalling to 50 respondents.  2.Fish Sellers (F.S) with 25 respondents in highly affected (Devanampattinam) region and 25 respondents in less affected village totalling to 50 respondents.  3.Fisher Catchers Cum Government Employees (Fc.G) with 25 respondents in highly affected(Devanampattinam) region and 25 respondents in less affected village (Pichavaram) totally 50 respondents. 4. Others (O) with 25 respondents in highly affected (Devanampattinam) region and 25 respondents in less affected village (Pichavaram) totally 50 respondents.

**Table: 2**
**Acute Disease and Morbidity Pattern of High Tsunami Affected Population in**
**Cuddalore District**

| SI. NO | Acute Disease and Morbidity Patten | Fc | Fs | Fc.G | O | Total |
|--------|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| 1 | Malaria | 10 (26) | 9 (31) | 6 (26) | 7 (39) | 32      (29) |
| 2 | Dengue | 8 (21) | 7 (24) | 9 (39) | 5 (28) | 29 (27) |
| 3 | Diarrhea | 7 (18) | 4 (14) | 3 (13) | 3 (17) | 17 (16) |
| 4 | Jaundice | 5 (13) | 3 (10) | 1 (4) | 2 (11) | 11 (10) |
| 5 | Cholera | 9 (23) | 6 (21) | 4 (17) | 1 (6) | 20 (18) |
|  | **Total** | **39 (100)** | **29 (100)** | **23 (100)** | **18 (100)** | **109 (100)** |

**Source:** Computed.
Note: Figures in Parentheses denote the percentages.

The about table 2 explains acute disease and morbidity pattern of high (Devanampattinam) Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district. The table shows that the five major diseases are prominent among the respondents. They are Malaria, dengue, diarrhoea, jaundice, cholera.In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catchers (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S), Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and others (O) are explained.

Malaria is the most acute disease with 29 percentages among the major five diseases. In all the four categories of respondents Fish Catchers Cum Government Employees (Fc.G) and Others (O) have high percentage of malaria and dengue.  When comes to actual number of respondents Fish Catchers are most affected due to malaria disease.Out of all  the four categories the Fish Catcher (F.C) are most affected which 39 respondents among the major 5 acute disease followed by Fish Sellers (F.S) with 29 respondents and Fisher Catchers Cum Government Employees (Fc.G) 23 respondents.

**Table: 3**
**Acute Disease and Morbidity Pattern of Less Tsunami Affected Population in**
**Cuddalore District**

| SI. NO | Acute Disease and Morbidity Patten | F.C | F.S | Fc.G | O | Total |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|------|---|-------|
| 1 | Malaria | 7 (25) | 7 (30) | 4 (36) | 4 (31) | 22 (29) |
| 2 | Dengue | 6 (21) | 4 (17) | 3 (27) | 3 (23) | 16 (21) |
| 3 | Diarrhea | 4 (14) | 4 (17) | 2 (18) | 2 (15) | 12 (16) |
| 4 | Jaundice | 4 (14) | 3 (13) | 1 (9) | 2 (15) | 10 (13) |
| 5 | Cholera | 7 (25) | 5 (22) | 1 (9) | 2 (15) | 15 (20) |
| | **Total** | **28 (100)** | **23 (100)** | **11 (100)** | **13 (100)** | **75 (100)** |

**Source:** Computed.
Note: Figures in Parentheses denote the percentages.

The about table 3 explains acute disease and morbidity pattern of less (Pichavaram) Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district. The table shows five major diseases are prominent among the respondents.They are Malaria, dengue, diarrhoea, jaundice, cholera. In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catchers (F.C),Fish Sellers (F.S) ,Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and others(O)are explained. Malaria is the most acute disease with 29 percentage among the major five diseases. In all the four categories of respondents .Fish Catchers Cum Government Employees (Fc.G) have high percentage (36%) of malaria. Fish Catchers (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S) have equal number of respondents with the disease malaria.

The comparison between acute disease and morbidity pattern ofhigh (Devanampattinam) Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district and acute disease and morbidity pattern of less Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district. The comparison between second and third tables shows the most affected acute disease in malaria 29 percentages. Both categories are equal percentage. But actual number of person is different that is highly affected (table2) area sample respondents in malaria is 32 respondents. In less affected area,(table 3)22 sample respondents areaffected by Malaria.

**Table: 4**
**Chronic Disease and Morbidity Pattern of Highly Tsunami Affected Population in Cuddalore District**

| SI. NO. | Chronic Disease and Morbidity Pattern | Fc | Fs | Fc. G | O | Total |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1 | Diabetes | 3 (19) | 4 (27) | 8 (44) | 7 (35) | 22 (32) |
| 2 | Heart Problem | 4 (25) | 4 (27) | 5 (28) | 7 (35) | 20 (29) |
| 3 | Leprosy | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 4 | Cancer | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 1 (6) | 1 (5) | 2 (3) |
| 5 | Asthma | 9 (56) | 7 (47) | 4 (22) | 5 (25) | 25 (36) |
| | Total | 16 (100) | 15 (100) | 18 (100) | 20 (100) | 69 (100) |

**Source:** Computed.
Note: Figures in Parentheses denote the percentages.

The above table 4 explains Chronic diseases and morbidity pattern of (Devanampattinam) high Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district. The table shows five major diseases are prominent among the respondents.They are diabetes, Heart Problem, leprosy, cancer, asthma. In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catchers (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S) ,Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and others (O)are explain.

Asthma is the most chronic disease with 36 percentage among the major five disease. In the four categories of respondents Fish Catchers (F.C) having high percentage of asthma.When comes to actual number of respondents Fish Catchers (F.C) most affected due to asthma disease. Out of all the four categories, the Others (O) are most affected with 20 respondents among the major five chronic diseases followed by Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) with 18 respondents and Fish Catchers (F.C) 16 respondents.

**Table: 5**
**Chronic Disease and Morbidity Pattern of Less Tsunami Affected Population in Cuddalore District**

| SI. NO. | Chronic Disease and Morbidity Pattern | Fc | Fs | Fc. G | O | Total |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| 1 | Diabetes | 3 (21) | 4 (31) | 9 (43) | 10 (37) | 26 (35) |
| 2 | Heart Problem | 4 (29) | 3 (23) | 7 (33) | 8 (30) | 22 (29) |
| 3 | Leprosy | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |
| 4 | Cancer | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 2 (10) | 2 (7) | 4 (5) |
| 5 | Asthma | 7 (50) | 6 (46) | 3 (14) | 7 (26) | 23 (31) |
| | Total | 14 (100) | 13 (100) | 21 (100) | 27 (100) | 75 (100) |

**Source:** Computed.
Note: Figures in Parentheses denote the percentages.

The above table 5 explains chronic disease and morbidity pattern of (Pichavaram) less Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district. The table shows five major diseases are prominent among the respondents. They are diabetes, Heart Problem, leprosy, cancer, asthma. In the tsunami affected area under different categories such as Fish Catchers (F.C), Fish Sellers (F.S), Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) and Others (O) are explained.

Diabetes is the most chronic disease with 35 percentage among the major five disease .In thefour categories of respondents Fish Catchers Cum Government employees (Fc.G) have high percentage of diabetes. When comes to actual number of respondents, Others (O) are most affected due to diabetes. Out of all the four categories, the Others (O) is most affected with 27 respondents among the major five chronic diseases followed by Fish Catchers Cum Government Employees (Fc.G)with 21 respondents and Fish Catchers (F.C)14 respondents.

The comparison between chronic disease and morbidity pattern of (Devanampattinam) high Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district and chronic disease and morbidity pattern of (Pichavaram) less Tsunami affected population in Cuddalore district shows thatboth categories have zero percentage leprosy. At the same time 29 percentage (tables 4 and 5) shows the chronic disease in heart Problem. Both categories have equal percentage. But actual number of persons is different. The (Devanampattinam) highly affected region (table 4) area sample respondents with heart problems is 20. In (Pichavaram) less affected area (table 5) 22 sample respondents are affected by heart problem.

**CONCLUSION**
The study has taken two types of disease namely acute disease and chronic disease and examine the morbidity pattern of two major groups namely, (Pichavaram) less Tsunami affected

population (Devanampattinam) highly Tsunami affected population. The acute diseases are malaria, dengue, jaundice, cholera. The chronic diseases are diabetes, heart problem, leprosy, cancer, asthma. In acute disease, among the four categories of respondents Fish Catchers (F.C) are most affected in both (Pichavaram) less Tsunami affected region and (Devanampattinam) high Tsunami affected region. When it comes to chronic disease the morbidity pattern shows that among the four categories Others (O) are most affected in both the regions. The reason behind the difference in the incidence of the morbidity among the major types of disease is that the acute disease such as malaria is prominent in Fish Catchers (F.C) because they are active works and they are prone to such diseases. When it comes to chronic disease, it is the in active population which is 'Others' (O) category among the four categories are more prone to the disease.

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