

# OUT OF POCKET EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY HOUSEHOLDS DURING COVID PANDEMIC IN VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT



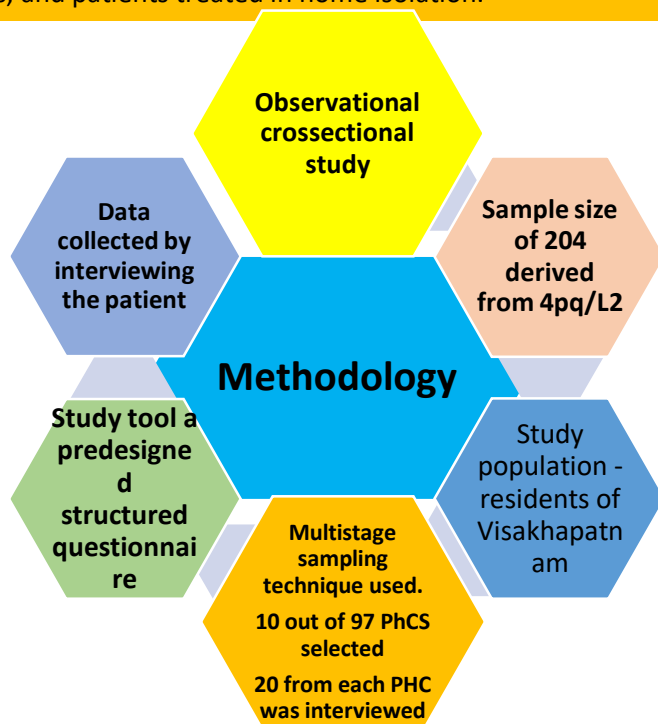
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**Background:** 1.COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in disruption of medical services,health of families and their economic status.

2: The present study focuses on expenditure of hospitalized patients, patients admitted in COVID care centers, and patients treated in home isolation.

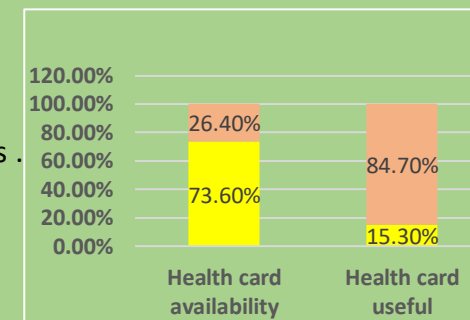
**Objectives:**1. To measure the out of pocket expenditure incurred by hospitalized patients, admitted in COVID care centers, and patients treated in home isolation due to Covid.  
2. To compare Out Of Pocket expenditure incurred by patients having health insurance and not having health insurance.



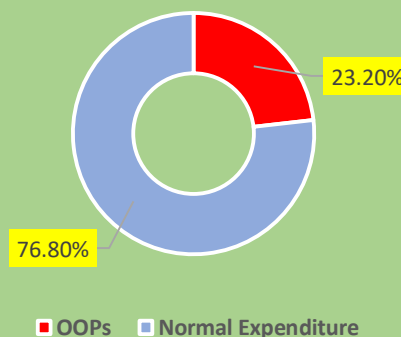
**Results:** Out of 204 study subjects enrolled in the study,

- Mean age was  $41.55 \pm 12.49$  yrs
- Males and females were 58.7% , 41.3% respectively.
- Out of 59.2% hospitalized,36.6% seek care from Govt hospital
- Only 32% has health insurance and it was not useful to them during covid.
- Expenditure incurred among hospitalized patients ranged from 0 to 14 lakhs .
- Expenditure incurred among patient from Covid Care Centre ranged from 500 to 400000
- The range of expenditure incurred by study subjects under home isolation during Covid pandemic was Rs 500 to Rs. 290000
- About 38% of patients under home isolation received medicine supplies from govt.

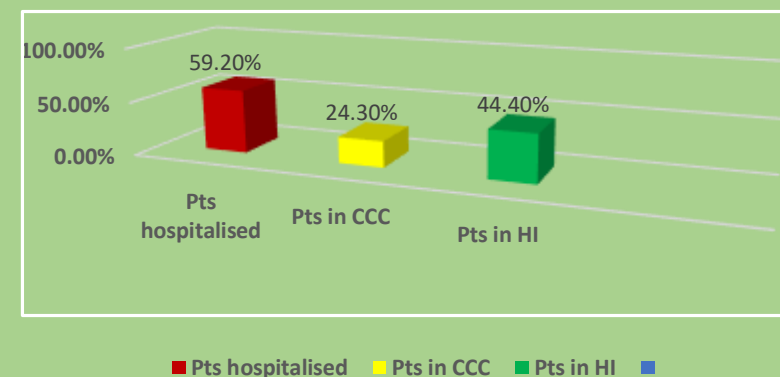
HEALTH CARD STATUS



Expenditure in Hospitalised



Distribution of study subjects attending the health facility



**Conclusions:** In patients hospitalized 23.2% experienced OOPs and were not covered by insurers.

**Recommendation:** Future research should include monitoring of patient financial burden resulting from COVID-19 hospitalizations as coverage policies change.

**References:** 1. El-Khatib Z, Otu A, Neogi U, Yaya S. The Association between Out-of-Pocket Expenditure and COVID-19 Mortality Globally. *J Epidemiol Glob Health.* 2020;10(3):192-193. doi:10.2991/jegh.k.200725.001