

Ethnomedical Practices of Chenchu – A Case of Integrated System

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ABSTRACT Chenchu, a hunting gathering semi nomadic tribe in transition inhabit Nallamalai forest of Andhra Pradesh is subjected to a number of problems not only with regard to subsistence needs but also with regard to sustaining their culture and popular health practices. This situation is attributed not merely due to culture contact but also due to the changing ecological conditions. The ethno medical system of Chenchu constitute multiple practices such as magico religious, pressure application and use of plant and animal products displaying medical pluralism. This system further shows a new dimension of integrated medicine as all these ethno medical practices are provided within the same social space by a few personnel with amicable cooperation among themselves.