

Herbal Medication-An Alternative Curative System Among Bhils in Udaipur District

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KEY WORDS Bhopa. ANM. VHG. Home Medication. Herbal Medicine.

ABSTRACT The study was carried out in two villages namely Madri and Jamun of Jhadol panchayat samiti in Udaipur district of southern Rajasthan from 156 Bhil respondents. Udaipur attains the 18th rank in Health Index (1997-98). A facility of primary health center (PHC) and ayurvedic hospital at Madri serves the purpose of health care of both of the villages at government level. Bhils believe in multi- causation theory regarding occurrence of diseases. Doctor, ANM, VHG, Bhopa, traditional herbalist, traditional birth attendant are some of the health personnels. Home medication is followed by treatment of Bhopa or/and herbalist. If the ailment is not cured by traditional healers, patient is taken to the allopathic doctor. If the patient doesn't get well evenafter doctor's prescription, he is again taken to the Bhopa- the ultimate doctor of the Bhil community. Treatment by a doctor and a Bhopa are two poles apart from each other. Herbal treatment finds its way in between two extreme therapies.

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