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Malnutrition, infection & disease

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Malnutrition is the condition that results from taking an unbalanced diet which certain nutrients are lacking, in excess (too high an intake), or in the wrong proportions. A number of different nutritional disorders may rise, depending on which nutrients are under overabundant in the diet. In most of the world, malnutrition is present in the form of undernutrition, which is caused by a diet lacking adequate calories and protein. The World Health Organization cites nutrition as the greatest single threat to the world's public health. Improving nutrition is widely regarded as the most effective form of aid. Nutrition—specific interventions, which address the immediate cause of undernutrition, have been proven to deliver among the best value for money of all development interventions. Malnutrition is responsible directly or indirectly for 54% of the 10.8 million deaths per year in children under five and contributes to every second death (53%) associated with infectious diseases among children under five years of age in developing countries. Infection causes energy loss on the part of the individual, which reduces productivity on the community level and perpetuates the alarming spiral of malnutrition, infection, disease and poverty.

Biography

ECG Muchaneta –Kubara completed her PhD as a mature student, mother wife and bread winner at Sheffield University in 1998 and has worked as a Senior Scientist in the Department of Chemical Pathology, Lecturer Immunology and Microbiology in the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences and currently Senior Lecturer in the Department of Medical Microbiology. She has over 21 International publications in reputed journals.

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