

Water sanitation: The need of the hour

Sayan Bhattacharyya

From Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna, Bihar, India

Correspondence to: Dr. Sayan Bhattacharyya, Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna, Bihar, India. E-mail: sayantheboss@yahoo.co.in

Received - 14 September 2017

Initial Review - 21 September 2017

Published Online - 28 September 2017

ABSTRACT

Water is the portal on entry of many infections and hence, should be safe for drinking. There are several methods of water sanitation, such as filtration, boiling, and ultraviolet light. Hence, safe drinking water is very important for prevention of illnesses such as diarrhea and dysentery.

Key words: Boiling, Filtration, Ultraviolet

Drinking water is a major source of several infections such as giardiasis, *Endameba histolytic* and *Cryptosporidium* spp. viruses and nematodes [1]. Drinking water in India frequently gets contaminated due to its proximity to sewerage drainage line, or in rural areas, due to lack of cleanliness around the borehole mouth [2]. India has 16% of world population and 4% of its water resources [3]. Pollution, over-exploitation of water resources, too fast agricultural growth, and non-enforcement of laws are causing problems related to water sanitation [3]. About 2.5 billion people each year are affected by poor water sanitation, and there are 1.5 million deaths worldwide due to diarrhea [4]. In this issue of Eastern Journal of Medical Sciences, Mahajan et al. have discussed these things in an article and in a lucid manner. They have also discussed how they dealt with the problems of water sanitation around Chandigarh area and how they solved it. All these things are very important and must be kept in mind while researching in the field of water sanitation.

REFERENCES

1. Oryan A, Alidadi S. Water as potential transmission route of infection with tapeworms. *Air Water Borne Dis.* 2015;4(2):e135.
2. Learning from Experience Water and Environmental Sanitation in India. Available from: https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/pub_wes_en.pdf. [Last accessed on 2017 Jul 14].
3. Drinking Water Quality in Rural India: Issues and Approaches. Charity Registration Number. 288701. Available from: <http://www.wateraid@wateraid.org>. [Last accessed on 2017 Jul 14].
4. Cabral JP. Water microbiology. Bacterial pathogens and water. Drinking water; cholera; typhoid fever; bacillary dysentery; fecal indicator bacteria; coliforms; ammonia. *Int J Environ Res Public Health.* 2010;7:3657-703.

Funding: None; Conflict of Interest: None Stated.

How to cite this article: Bhattacharyya S. Water sanitation: The need of the hour. *East J Med Sci.* 2017;2(3):41-41.