



# THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: SILOED OR SYNDEMIC SURVEILLANCE?

ECONOMIC FALLOUT OF COVID-19 IN INDIA  
(ICRIER webinar, 1 May 2020)

Dr Ali Mehdi

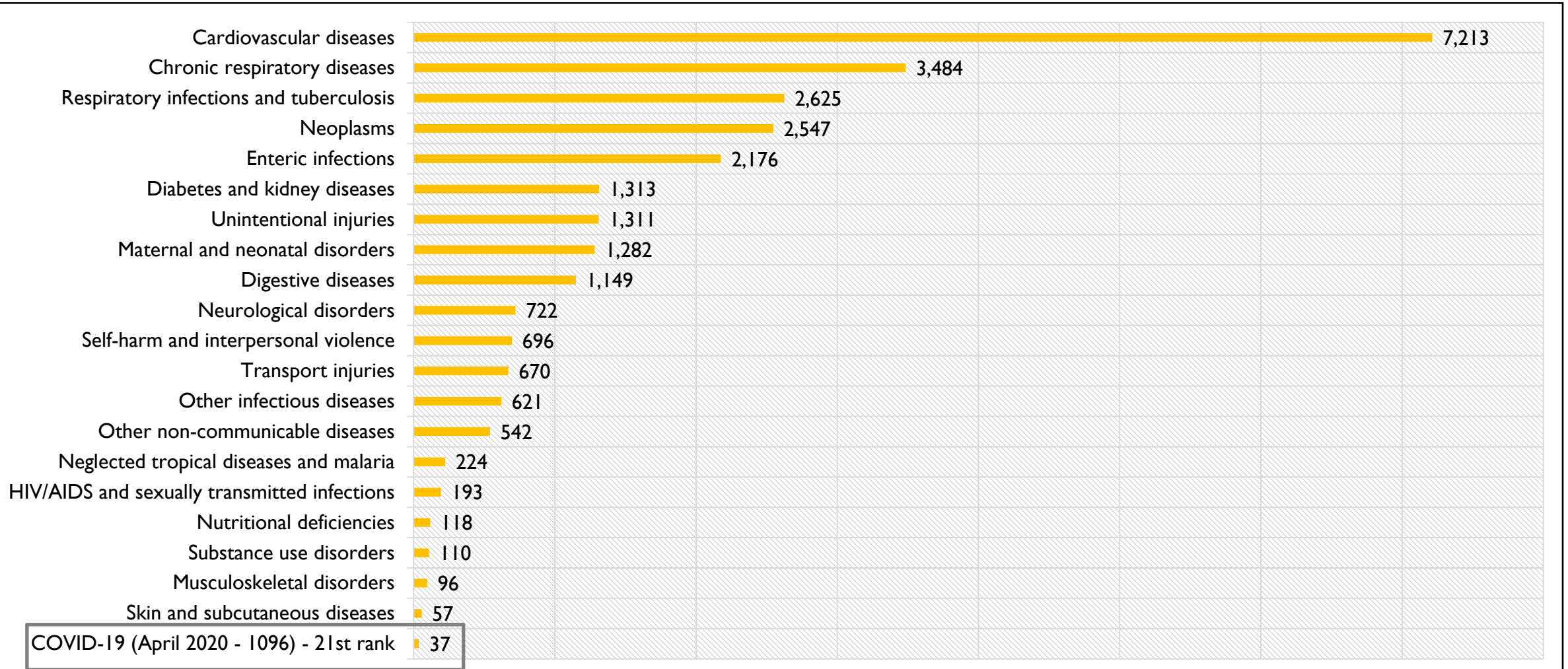
Senior Fellow and Team Leader, Health Policy Initiative  
Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)

[amehdi@icrier.res.in](mailto:amehdi@icrier.res.in) \* 1 May 2020, 5:05 – 5:15 pm

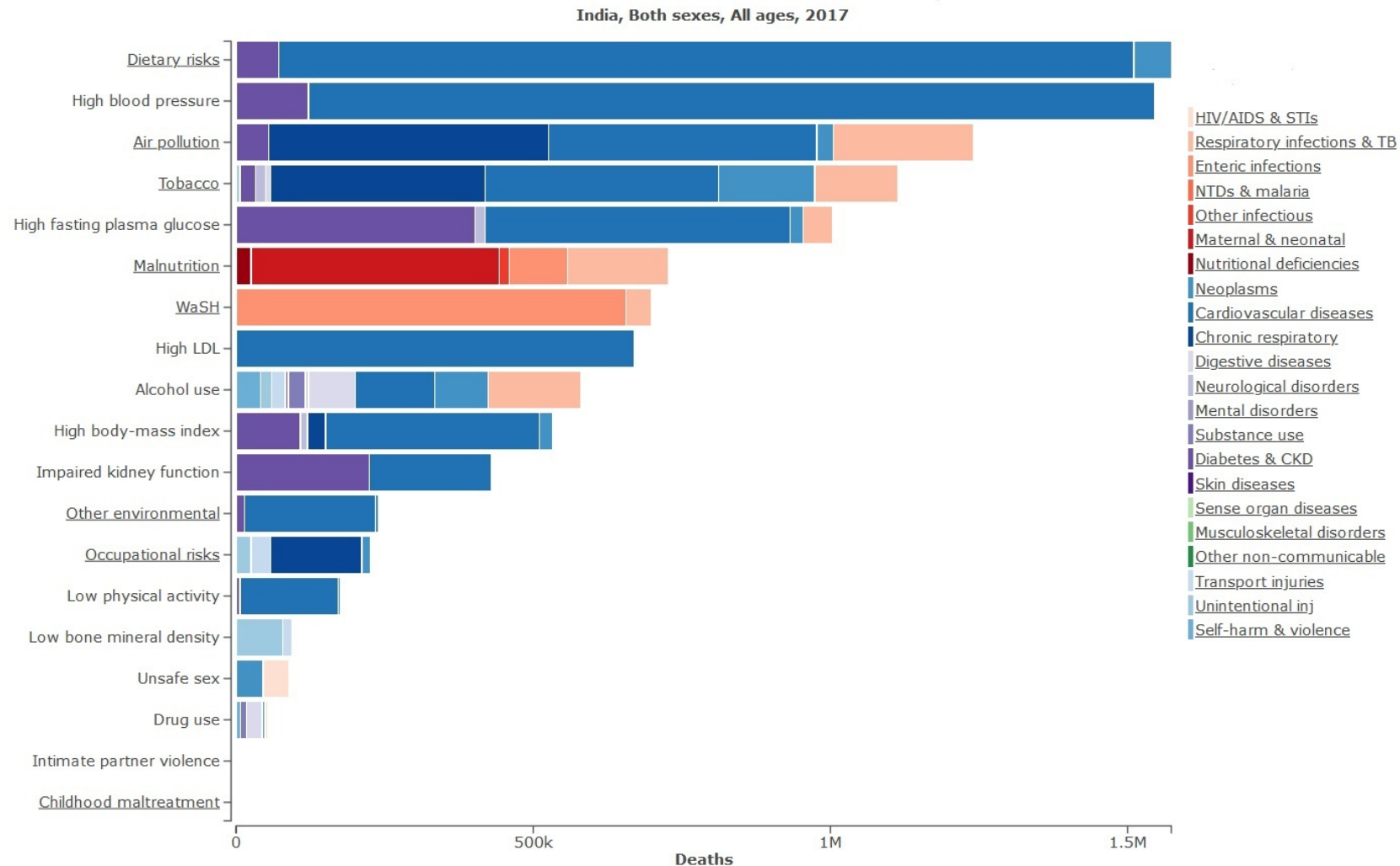
# DAILY AVERAGE CASES AND DEATHS (N) IN INDIA: TOP 10 COM. DISEASES IN INDIA (2018) AND COVID-19 (APRIL 2020)

Communicable disease	Cases	Deaths	Case fatality rate (%)
COVID-19 (Apr 2020)	1,162.0	37.0	3.2
HINI	41.0	3.0	7.4
Viral Meningitis	35.9	0.4	1.1
Diphtheria	32.1	0.5	1.5
Acute Encephalitis Syndrome	31.2	1.7	5.6
Encephalitis	27.5	1.5	5.3
Tetanus (non-neonatal)	24.9	0.2	0.8
Meningococcal Meningitis	9.3	0.4	4.5
Japanese Encephalitis	4.6	0.5	10.9
Cholera	1.8	0.0	0.9
Tetanus (neonatal)	0.5	0.0	3.9

# DAILY AVERAGE DEATHS (N) IN INDIA: TOP 20 KILLERS (2017) AND COVID-19 (APRIL 2020)



# HEALTH RISKS IN INDIA, 2017



# THE GLOBAL SYNDEMIC

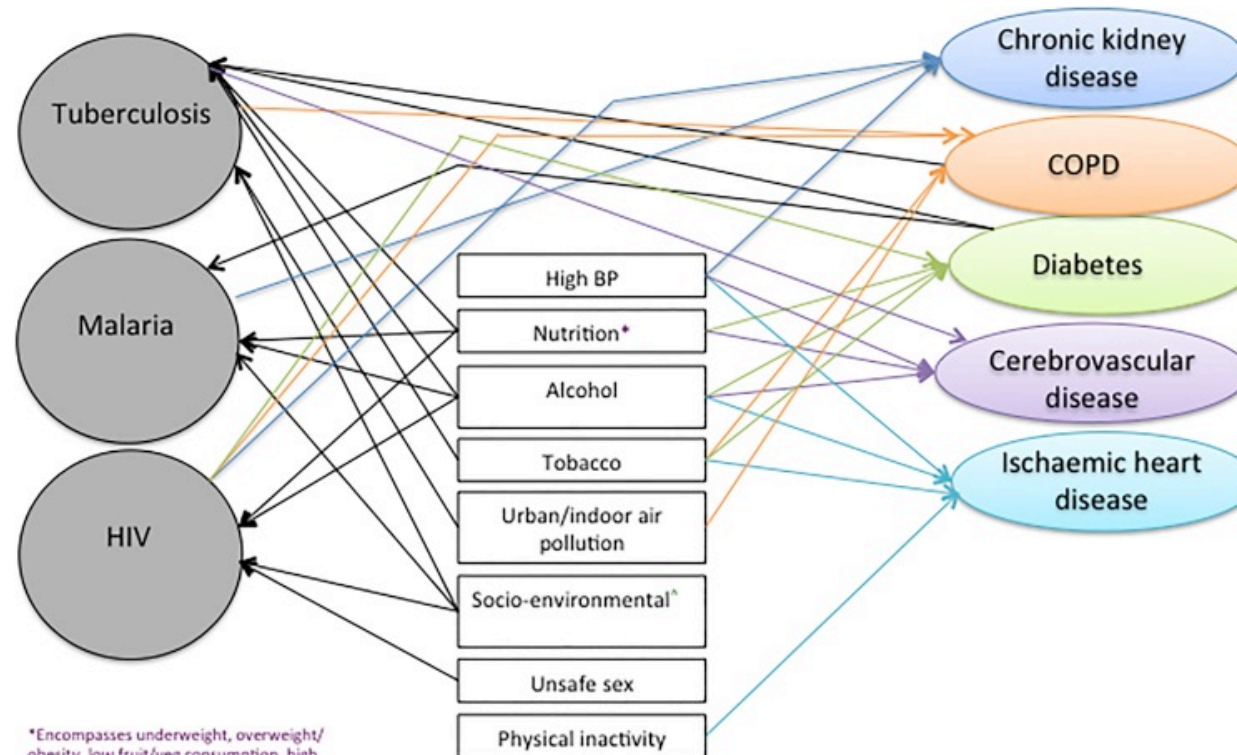
“Malnutrition in all its forms, including obesity, undernutrition, and other dietary risks, is the leading cause of poor health globally. In the near future, the health effects of climate change will considerably compound these health challenges. Climate change can be considered a pandemic because of its sweeping effects on the health of humans and the natural systems we depend on (i.e. planetary health).

These three pandemics—obesity, undernutrition, and climate change—represent **The Global Syndemic** that affects most people in every country and region worldwide.

They constitute a syndemic, or synergy of epidemics, because they co-occur in time and place, interact with each other to produce complex sequelae, and share common underlying societal drivers.”

- Swinburn et al. 2019. ‘The Global Syndemic of Obesity, Undernutrition, and Climate Change: The Lancet Commission report’. *The Lancet* 393(10173): 791-846.

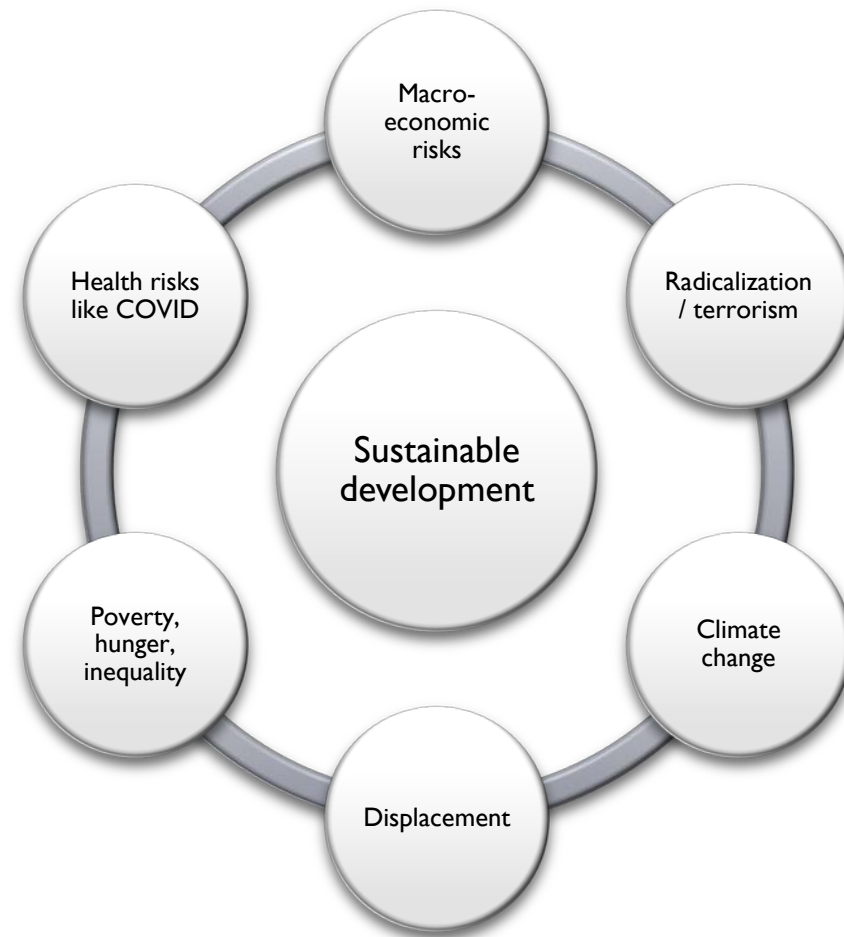
# A SYNDEMIC APPROACH TO HEALTH RISKS



\*Encompasses underweight, overweight/obesity, low fruit/veg consumption, high glucose intake

^Conditions associated with informality: overcrowding, unsafe water & sanitation

# A SYNDEMIC APPROACH TO OVERALL RISKS





**THANK YOU!**