

**SUMANT KHANNA**  
**MD, PhD, MAMS, MRCPsych**

**PRESIDENT**  
**CLINIRX RESEARCH**  
**GURGAON INDIA**

# MYTHS ABOUT INDIA

- ILLITERATE PATIENTS
- POOR INFORMED CONSENT
- POOR HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEM

# FACTS ABOUT INDIA

- SUBJECTS IN STUDIES REPRESENT LOWER SOCIO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM
- INFORMED CONSENT DISCUSSED WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, OFTEN PATIENT'S CONSENT
- GOOD MEDICAL INFRA-STRUCTURE WITH WELL TRAINED DOCTORS. MOST SITES USE DOCTORS AS CO-ORDINATORS
- GOOD-MAY NOT BE HI-TECH. HOWEVER MOST RESEARCH IS DONE IN CENTRAL SITES WHICH ARE HI-TECH

# HEALTH SYSTEM

- ATTEMPT AT DECENTRALISATION NOT SUCCESSFUL ALTHOUGH REPEATED ATTEMPTS MADE
- EXPORT OF LARGE AMOUNT OF HIGHLY MEDICALLY QUALIFIED GRADUATES
- FEW DOCTORS, FEW FACILITIES

# BUT

- LARGE CENTRALISED (IN STATES) CENTRES WHICH ARE WELL MANNED AND HI-TECH
- QUALITY DISSEMINATES ACROSS PUBLIC-PRIVATE AND CENTRAL-PERIPHERAL PARTS OF THE HEALTH SYSTEM

# LITERACY

- THE ABILITY TO READ OR WRITE DOES NOT COMPROMISE ABILITY TO THINK
- ANYWAY THE RATE OF LITERACY IS ON A SHARP RISE

# INFORMED CONSENT

- THE PROBLEM WITH CONSENT IS NOT WITH THE PROCESS PER SE, BUT WITH BULKY LITERALLY TRANSLATED FORMS WHICH HAVE LED TO SINGLE STATEMENT ALTERNATIVES
- DOCUMENTATION AT TIMES HAS BEEN INSUFFICIENT
- WHEN GIVEN CHOICES MOST PATIENTS MAKE THEM

# PATIENT RETENTION

- HIGH
- TRADITIONALLY SO
- LACK OF RESPONSE MAIN REASON
- BECAUSE SO MANY PEOPLE INVOLVED IN DECISION MAKING, THE PROCESS HAS TO BE REPEATED

# PLACEBO

- ALWAYS HAS BEEN A PROBLEM
- DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY
- MOST STUDIES ARE VEERING AWAY FROM THIS
- IT AROSE OUT OF A NEED TO HAVE SMALL STUDIES
- ONLY POSSIBLE IN DRUG NAÏVE NEW PATIENTS WITH MILD DISEASE

# PLACEBO EFFECT

- FREE DRUGS
- SHORTER PHYSICIAN WAITING
- MORE CONCERTED TREATMENT
- IF HOSPITALISATION REQUIRED,  
PRIORITY FOR THAT

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