Understanding The Scope Of Vulnerable Populations

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**Vulnerable Mothers and Children**

Pregnancy can be marked as high-risk vulnerability due to different factors. Unhealthy weight, insufficient use of medication, lack of nutrition, use of tobacco and alcohol, and domestic violence can bear unwanted implications on the unborn child and the mother (Koblinsky, Campbell & Harlow, 2018). For these reasons, pregnant women are considered a vulnerable population. Vulnerable mothers' lack of access to adequate healthcare has a direct relation to infant mortality (Koblinsky, Campbell & Harlow, 2018). In 2006, 83.2% of pregnant women seeking health care during pregnancy. Although the infant mortality rate in the United State is on a decline with 5.98 infant deaths recorded for per 1000 births, still there are racial and ethnic groups that have higher infant mortality rates than the US nationals. For instance, due to low income and inadequate income and social status have increased infant mortality in these groups.

**Chronically Ill and Disabled People**

Chronic diseases attribute to 70% of US deaths annually. In 2005, 26.6% of deaths were due to heart diseases. 53% of the deaths were due to chronic lower respiratory diseases. and diabetes caused 3.1% of the deaths. Chronic diseases often result in permanent physical impairment. 32.5% of people over 65 years of age were rendered disabled due to chronic diseases. 7.3% of adults became physically disabled due to diseases. although the chronic disease is linked with personal choices. These choices can be smoking cigarette that could result in lung cancer and respiratory diseases that would increase the risk for this population.

**People Diagnosed with HIV/AIDS**

The deaths related to HIV/AIDS are on the rise since the 1980s. There were nearly 500,000 people in the United States tested positive for HIV/AIDS in the year 2008. In 2011, this number decline to 200,000 with 50,000 new patients each year. Although all American populations are vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, African American homosexual and bisexual men are at increased risk to contract the disease (McAteer et.al, 2016). 61% of the total HIV patients belonged to the said social strata. The pain and suffering of HIV/AIDS are further exacerbated by the stigma around it (McAteer et.al, 2016).

**Conclusion**

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| **Vulnerable Populations** | **Three HealthCare Needs** |
| Vulnerable Mothers and Children | Affordability of services for pregnant women, acceptability in the society for single pregnant women, and accommodation for the homeless pregnant women |
| People with Chronic Diseases | Anti Depression Therapy, Provision of Assistance with movement, Provision of effective chronic care management |
| People afflicted with HIV/AIDS | Reducing the stigma revolving around HIV/AIDs, widespread coverage and access to prevention services, effective follow up for HIV prevention |

**References**

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