



Bhagyashree Radhakrishnan

Designation and Contact

Research Associate and Manager
Birth Defects Research Foundation
www.birthdefectsindia.com
bhagyashree03061996@gmail.com
WhatsApp/Phone +91 7888043450

A. Education

PhD in Public Health (2024-current)
Department of Public Health, School of Health Sciences & Technology, Dr Vishwanath
Karad MIT – World Peace University

Master of Science in Health Sciences (2017 – 2019)
School of Health Sciences, Savitribai Phule Pune University

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology (2014 – 2017)
Fergusson College, Savitribai Phule Pune University

B. Research

My introduction to public health was initiated with my Masters in Health Sciences program from Savitribai Phule Pune University. My area of research interest is maternal and child health, specifically focusing care for children with birth defects and disabilities. I have worked on studies related to a national child health programme in India, the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK programme). My research work has introduced me to field based studies which has enhanced my understanding of the community settings and the health service requirements of children with birth defects, and their caregivers. Further, directing me towards defining the healthcare service priorities for strengthening the public health interventions for children with birth defects.

Research Experience

- Public health interventions for a birth defects service for low and middle-income countries: Implications from a community study in India
- Development of a Birth Defects Toolkit for public health students and community health practitioners in India
- Barriers and Facilitators to rehabilitation and care among children with selected birth defects and disabilities seeking healthcare at DEIC
- Prevention of congenital disorders in India using existing maternal health interventions: Modelled estimates from the Modell Global Database of Congenital Disorders



- Factors affecting compliance to Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) referral for birth defects and developmental disabilities
- Prevalence of shared risk factors for cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, diabetes mellitus and breast cancer among women resident of urban slums of Pune between age group of 18 – 49 years

Publications

ORCID ID: [0000-0002-7404-7907](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7404-7907)

Radhakrishnan, B., Chatta, V., & Kar, A. (2025). Birth defects services in low resource settings: implications from a community-based study in India. *Journal of Public Health Policy*, 1-13.

Radhakrishnan, B., & Kar, A. (2025). A Birth Defects Toolkit for Public Health Students and Community Health Practitioners in India. *Bharati Vidyapeeth Medical Journal*, 5(1), 60-63.

Kar, A., Yajnik, C. S., Doke, P. P., Bhide, P., Chutke, A., Radhakrishnan, B., & Phadnis, S. (2022). Mandatory food fortification with folic acid. *The Lancet Global Health*, 10(10), e1390.

Kar, A., Chutke, A., Gokhale, C., Phadnis, S., & Radhakrishnan, B. (2022). A healthy future for children and adolescents. *The Lancet*, 400(10358), 1099.

Kar, A., Radhakrishnan, B., Girase, T., Ujagare, D., & Patil, A. (2020). Community-Based Screening and Early Intervention for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities: Lessons from the RBSK Programme in India. *Disability, CBR & Inclusive Development*, 31(1).

C. Work Experience

- Research Associate and Manager, Birth Defects Research Foundation (2021 - current)
- Junior Editorial Associate, Springer Nature (2019 - 2021)
Role included: recommending relevant journals to authors for manuscripts from the field of clinical sciences and public health, transferring manuscripts to the journal chosen by authors and communicating with the authors to clarify their doubts.
- Member of organization and management committee, Disability Sensitization and Early Intervention Awareness Campaign, Birth Defects and Childhood Disability Research Centre (2019)
Role included: training volunteers on disability etiquette, familiarizing volunteers with the basic steps of conducting a health campaign and the process of public engagement, preparation of campaign material and appropriate distribution.

Internship (Savitribai Phule Pune University, 2019)

- The Burden of Lower Respiratory Tract infections attributable to air pollution in India: study of and utilization of Global Burden of Diseases India database



D. Teaching Contribution

- Assistant faculty, “Public health and health services in India”, internship programme, Birth Defects Research Foundation and NORD University faculty for nursing and health sciences

E. Workshops, Trainings and Conferences

- Reimagining India's Health system Towards Viksit Bharat @2047, Goa Institute of Management, Goa (2026)
- 8th International Conference on Research and Evidence on Disability, Hyderabad (2024)
- Birth Defects and Childhood Disability: A policy and health system perspective (2024)
- 10th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World, Chile (2023)
- Congenital disorders and Public Health (2022)
- 9th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World, Sri Lanka (2020)
- Pune Public Health Conference (2019)
- Disability, Rehabilitation and Health Promotion (2019)
- Manuscript Writing course (2019)
- Workshop on methods and methodology for studies of Vulnerability, Global health and disability – a lifespan perspective, Goa, India (2018)
- Disability across the Lifespan (2017)

Academic Awards and Scholarships

- Best Poster Award, Pune Public Health Conference (2019)
- Prof Sukhatme scholarship, Interdisciplinary School of Health Sciences (2018)