

LOOKING AT COVID-19 PANDEMIC THROUGH THE LENS OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRANSITION THEORY

PIA GHOSHAL¹ AND ANIRUDDHA BANERJI^{2*}

The COVID-19 pandemic, the causative agent for which is the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2), has posed severe challenges to the health industry, governments and communities to meet the pressing demands for controlling and overcoming this highly infective and constantly mutating virus. This paper seeks to discuss and analyze some possible issues related to Omran's theory of epidemiologic transition in the light of COVID-19 pandemic. We concentrate on three propositions of Omran related to the importance of mortality, the health transition from communicable to non-communicable diseases and the susceptibility of different sections of society to various diseases. As the COVID-19 pandemic has severe epidemiologic implications, there is an urgent need to adapt to new situations and to extend existing knowledge and skills in preparation to respond to possible outbreaks in the future. This paper also highlights some of the possible actions which can be taken for such a pandemic in future in light of the transition theory.
