



# BOOK REVIEW – URBAN HEALTH | CENTRAL CHRONICLE – BHOPAL

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**Leisure 6**

**Book Review**

**'Urban Health - Emerging Public Health Perspectives'**

Dr Edmond Fernandes and Dr. Indu Grewal - two noted public health professionals of the country have published a new book titled **Urban Health - Emerging Public Health Perspectives**. Through this book, the two medical doctors have collated a valuable collection of literature on urban health from various experts on an assortment of topics.

Urban Health is a nascent subject in India's public health context since the attention of the systems and governance is divided. But the book clearly illustrates that Urban health is like a ticking time bomb with paucity of policies around urban health. The book also reflects how cities are the ones affected by natural disasters, climate change and pandemics and all the sustainable progress gets washed away with zero urban health focus.

The book builds on empirical evidence of authors and their years of experience and secondary quantitative data that supports authoritative arguments into how urban futures are shaping up in the healthcare space particularly for public health. **Urban Health - Emerging Public Health Perspectives** highlights roles that non government agencies and academicians including civil servants can play in building the mandate for urban health, and along with that how inter-sectoral coordination with a focus on urban health is crucial for sustainable development goals.

The contributions in the book have borrowed examples intermittently on best practices in selected cities around the world which can be emulated by other low and middle income countries to suit their policies and geo-politics in a way that can enhance sustainable urban health planning, programmes and policy gaps.

The book however lacks uniformity in substance and style since the editors have picked the authors from diverse backgrounds. While the focus has been on urban health, some authors chose to focus on the theoretical side of urban health, while some focused on the implementation side and while some others focused on the academic side of it. This stretched the book into multiple angles which tickles imagination but remains spread out for a reader looking at only a single point focus. The book could have brought in contributions from urban planners and hospital architects which could have paved a pathway of health system infrastructure and how this could play out for coming decades in low and middle income countries and what this could mean for high income countries at large.



Central Chronicle publishes a book review on Urban Health published by Global South Strategies edited by Dr. Edmond Fernandes and Dr. Indu Grewal. This talks about various aspects of public health around the world. Makes an interesting read.