Maternal Education and the Multidimensionality of Child Health Outcomes

A mother’s education has long been recognized as playing a central role in her children’s health. But child health is a multidimensional attribute, and little research has compared the role of maternal education across different health outcomes. We test whether the linkages between maternal education and child health outcomes differ by the extent to which they are under the immediate control of the family. Using survey data from India, we find that maternal education linkages are strongest for immunization, iron supplementation during pregnancy, and post-natal medical care for the child, whereas the linkages are moderate for underweight, and weakest for stunting and child mortality. We further test how maternal education impacts medical care through the intervening roles of empowerment, human, social, and cultural capital. These mediating linkages are absent for stunting and child mortality, giving further evidence for our assertion that maternal education influences those child health outcomes primarily under the control of the mother.

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Chaired by: Dr Vincent Chua, Assistant Professor, Dept of Sociology, NUS
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All are Welcome! Refreshments will be served. Registration is required.
Register at https://goo.gl/forms/OxLsCrJrlyEJNoAG3 by 9 February 2017