

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC INEQUALITY IN THE USE OF FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES IN INDIA: A DECOMPOSITION ANALYSIS

Measuring socioeconomic inequalities in health and understanding the determinants of health inequalities in term of their contribution are critical for specific health intervention strategies and achieving health equity. This research aims at to assess the decomposed contributions of socioeconomic determinants of use of family planning services (use of modern family planning method) in India using the recent National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3, 2005-06) data. In the first stage analysis, concentration indices of use of modern family planning method were calculated as measures of socioeconomic inequalities. The concentration indices were then decomposed into their determining factors. Decomposition results reveal that poor household economic status, mother's illiteracy and rural residence explain major part of the total socioeconomic inequalities in the use of family planning services. The pattern of evidence from decomposition analysis will highlight the intervention strategies to reduce the level of inequality arising from poverty, illiteracy and rural residence.