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# **WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023**

**BHUBANESWAR, INDIA | 9-14 AUGUST 2023**

**CTD: 2oHH- HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND WELLBEING**

**SUB-DOMAIN: SOCIO-CULTURAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**PANEL TITLE:**

**WOMEN'S HEALTH AND NUTRITION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**CONVENOR: DR MANINDER KAUR**

**CO-CONVENOR -PROF. A.K. SINHA**

## **ABSTRACT**

Women's health is an essential determinant of society's growth as they play both productive and reproductive roles. Women's entire life span is affected by the complex and continuous interaction of social, cultural, psychological, and biological factors. Therefore, it is very important to study the factors affecting their health in terms of bio-cultural changes. Issues of health and nutrition that impact a woman's life have become critically important as it impacts not only her but also the well-being of the family as also unborn children. Women are largely the care-providers and with rapid increase in the life expectancy, her health both as an individual and as provider of primary care services is crucial. Thus, it becomes pivotal to discuss factors affecting health and nutrition, importantly in patriarchal societies. This is because of dominant discourse of masculinity and son preference, which at times become instrumental in constraining women's nutritional needs. This panel proposes to discuss social, economic, and cultural factors that impact women's access to health and nutrition resources. It further examines the role of policy and intervention programmes currently being promoted to tackle this immediate concern. The potential of technology and innovation in improving women's health and nutrition outcomes, including the use of mobile health and other digital tools to enhance access to health and nutrition services will be explored.

The panel will provide a platform for experts to share insights and experiences about this contingency. It further endeavours to identify opportunities for collaboration and action by bringing together multiple perspectives. We invite contributions from anthropology, public health, Food and nutrition experts, colleagues from the discipline of social work and gender studies, to discuss best practices and policy interventions. Empirical research documenting case studies and best practises relating to women's health and nutrition are welcome.

**Keywords:** Health and Nutrition, cultural norms, policy interventions

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