

## ABSTRACT

In South Asia, cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and respiratory disease play a significant role in both mortality and morbidity. This study was done to understand the health effects of household cooking fuel choice in a developing country like India. Specifically, to check if there is an association between type of cooking fuel and prevalence of asthma and hypertension in women. Using the National Family Health Survey (NFHS V) data for women age group belonging to 15 to 49 years of age, logistic regression analysis was done. In India, majority have started to use low polluting fuels like LPG. The findings revealed that individuals using clean cooking fuels such as electricity and LPG had significantly lower odds of developing asthma and hypertension compared to those using polluting fuels like coal or lignite. Wealth, religion, place of residence, smoking, BMI, age, ethnicity, and education were identified as important factors associated with the likelihood of developing asthma and hypertension. Individuals with higher household income as well as those living in rural areas, were found to have lower odds of developing asthma. Individuals with highest level of education was associated with lower levels of hypertension. The utilization of cleaner cooking fuels is significantly influenced by female literacy. It was also found that as age and BMI of a women increases, they are more likely to get asthma and hypertension. However, there were variations in the associations among different religious groups and ethnicities. The world's oldest source of anthropogenic air pollution, biomass combustion smoke, drastically elevates ambient particulate matter levels.

**Keywords:** Cooking fuel, Cardiovascular disease, Respiratory disease, Sustainable Development Goals, Hypertension, Asthma.

**JEL Codes:** C31, C53, Q01, Q5, Q53.