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**Population and Development and Environment Factors Affecting Acute
Respiratory Infection Among Children in the Philippines: Evidence from the
2003 National Demographic Survey**

by
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ABSTRACT

While infant mortality rate fell to 35 per -1,000 live births in the Philippines in 1998, acute respiratory infection remains the top killer and cause of morbidity among infants and children. Considering the ineffectiveness of medicine to solve acute respiratory infection in the Philippines, this study aims to determine other factors that influence this unfavorable health condition. Specifically, this study will investigate the effect of specific household level population, environment and development factors on the prevalence of acute respiratory infection among Filipino children 5 years old and below.

The data for this study will come form the 2003 National Demographic Health Survey. Logistic regression analysis will be used to determine the joint effect of (a) Population – children with high birth order, and crowding in the household; (b) Environment – source of drinking water, type of toilet facility, main material of the floor of the house, type of garbage disposal, and presence of family member who smoke cigarette tobacco; and (c) Development – socioeconomic index and years of education of the household head.

Study results would show that policymakers should also consider household level population environment and development factors in preventing the incidence of acute respiratory infection among children five years old and younger.