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Name: Dr Harshwardhan Vijay Shende

Current designation: Scientist C

Date of Birth: 07/06/1989

Qualifications

Sr. No	Qualifications	University	Year
1	Bachelor of Social Work	RTM Nagpur University	2010
2	MA in Social Work	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai	2012
3	MPhil in Rural Development	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur	2016
4	PhD in Rural Development	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur	2024

Current affiliation: Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute for Tribal Health Research (NITHR), Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.

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Areas of Interest

1. Psychosocial aspects of chronic diseases
2. Mental health (Anxiety, depression, and psychological distress) and social stigma among tribal and marginalised populations
3. Social determinants of health
4. Malnutrition and tribal health

Publication:

1. Kumar D, Singh T, Shende HV. Utilisation of antenatal care (ANC) services among tribal mothers in central India: A cross-sectional study. *J Commun Health Manag.* 2025;12(3):100-105 <https://jchm.in/archive/volume/12/issue/3/article/25354/pdf>.
2. Tarendra Digarse, Diksha Singh, Kalyan Brata Saha and Harshwardhan Vijay Shende. Anxiety and depression in scheduled tribes of India: A review. *Int. J. Psychol. Sci.* 2026;8(3):11-14. DOI: [10.33545/26648377.2026.v8.i3a.144](https://doi.org/10.33545/26648377.2026.v8.i3a.144).
3. Shende, H. V., Kumar, S., Dar, Q. F., Singh, D., Digarse, T., & Saxena, N. (2026). Traditional wisdom, modern solutions: millets as medicine for India's tribal communities. *International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health*, 13(5), 2533–2538. <https://doi.org/10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20261447>

Ongoing Projects

1. Anxiety and Depression among Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) Patients: **Principal Investigator**
2. Implementation research for optimising the comprehensive Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) care services under the national SCA elimination mission: **Co-Investigator**
3. Connecting the unconnected: An incentive-based model to connect the Baiga traditional healers to the public health system: **Co-Principal Investigator**
4. Identifying the gaps and challenges in the healthcare delivery system in tribal areas: A Multicentric study: **Co-Investigator**
5. Drinking Water Quality and Diarrhoeal Morbidity Among Children in Datia District, Madhya Pradesh: A Community- Based Analytical Study: **Co-Principal Investigator**
6. PPH Drape Project: **Co-Investigator**

Membership of Professional Societies/institutions:

1. Life Member of Epidemiology Foundation of India
2. National Advisory Board member of the Indian Journal of Psychological Associations

Awards:

1. Best poster presentation in the health communication course

Administrative Responsibility:

1. Nodal Communication Officer (NCO)
2. Central Public Information Officer (CPIO, Scientific)
3. Member Secretary of the Executive Committee
4. Nodal Officer of Model Rural Health Research (MRHRU), Jheet

Papers presented at the Conference

1. Presented a research paper titled "*Sickle Cell Disease and Social Stigma: Unravelling the Complex Barriers and Challenges in India*" at the International Conference organised by ICMR-National Institute of Immunohematology held from 4–6 October 2024 at Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

Invited Talks

1. Delivered an invited Chief Guest talk on *tribal health* for the ICMR - National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR) via virtual session on 14 November 2025.
2. Delivered a talk on *mental health, workplace balance, and well-being* during outreach sessions under the Swastha Nari Abhiyaan in September 2025