

## AVOIDABLE MORTALITY AND MEN'S HEALTH STATUS IN SRI LANKA

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**Abstract:** *Comparative survival probabilities of men and women in Sri Lanka exemplify that they are not favourable to men. They suggest that men are increasingly exposed to high risk mortality factors. This paper attempts to offer a satisfactory rationalization as to why there is a widening gap in life expectancies between men and women. It is believed that such an attempt will expose complex nature of men's health issues which have significant impact on the health and welfare of men. This paper examines what those high risk mortality factors are and at which ages men are vulnerable to higher risk. In relation to the diseases of the circulatory system, nervous system, respiratory system, endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases and external causes of morbidity and mortality, men are in a more hostile position in promoting their survival chances. Although most these causes are amenable to medical interventions, sex differentials of mortality can be attributed to factors other than such interventions.*

**Key words:** men's health, morbidity, epidemiology, mortality