© Kamla-Raj 2007 PRINT: ISSN 0972-0073 ONLINE: 2456-6802 Ethno-Med., 1(1): 21-25 (2007) DOI: 10.31901/24566772.2007/01.01.02

## Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Improving Quality of Health Practices

## **Pradeep Nair**

Amity School of Communication (ASCO), Amity University (Lucknow Campus), Uttar Pradesh, India

**KEYWORDS** Improving access; evidence-based practice; telemedicine; distance learning and databases and networking

**ABSTRACT** The shift in development thinking and practice towards people-centered health programmes and the participation of people and communities in decisions concerning their own health problems is creating new opportunities for ICT practices in health sector. Today, ICT is used as an empowerment tool for improving the quality of health practices in both urban and rural areas. The article looks ICT as a tool to facilitate development in health sector by encouraging dialogue and debate. The article outlines ICT as the most prominent and interactive communication method, giving voice to rural and urban people, thus enabling them to articulate their own health agendas. It is examined in the article that by fostering the exchange of knowledge and information, ICT can stimulate people's awareness and motivation, allowing them to take informed decisions on the crucial issues affecting their health.