Health Services Education Research

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newsletter

A publication of J Watumull Global Hospital & Research Centre | www.ghrc-abu.com

We knew the cause for sickness two and half millennia ago, but have done little to eradicate it... writes medical director Dr Partap Midha. January 2019 Volume 132

In 460 BC, Hippocrates, a Greek physician considered the father of Western medicine, observed that environment and human behaviour have a far reaching effect on health. Human disease does not occur randomly or by choice—it has causal and preventative factors.

In the light of the Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) deaths in Bihar, this observation suggests we have failed to provide our children an environment conducive to good health. This is true on many grounds.

A fact-finding team from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) pointed out that all the children aged between 1.5 and 12 years who died in the epidemic belonged exclusively to families of the lower socioeconomic strata.

In Muzzaffarpur, doctors said that 80 per cent of the children brought to the hospital were malnourished. Why was that so?

Commentators have opined that Bihar has no clear nutrition policy in keeping with the National Nutrition Mission launched last year. Let us look at the problem a little more deeply. Socioeconomic equations in the state have stayed stagnant since decades. A case in point: the Musahars, considered mahadalits for being one of the most oppressed castes in the state, still survive by killing rats and live in squalid conditions with no access to clean drinking water, as does the Ravidas community, a subsegment making up a third of the dalits in the state.

Their continuing poverty can be traced back to their abysmally low educational achievement and hence, a lack of general awareness, in particular, on the subject of good health.

Women, a vulnerable social class, are always worse off, as they are more likely to suffer from conditions such as anaemia and fall prey to maternal mortality despite the existence—at least,

on paper-of government schemes aiming to alleviate these occurrences. Malnourished women give birth to the next generation of malnourished babies, and their socioeconomic conditions do not support lifting their families out of squalor.

Acute encephalitis syndrome is characterised by an acute onset of fever and clinical neurological manifestation. However, as I have elucidated, every epidemic has long term causal factors behind the immediate causal factor (the bite of a mosquito).

The AIIMS report observed that when the affected children started having symptoms from night till early morning, family members took them to the health facility on their own with a deadly delay and little help from local health officials. Seriously, we need to see the current outbreak for what it really is—a reminder to all those involved to do their job. Only then will the immediate and long-term causes be alleviated.

Visiting consultants

Dr Jitendra Shah, a dermatologist from Ahmedabad, was consulted by 72 patients during a visit in October, and by 40 patients in December. Nephrologist Dr Anand Narayan Malu from Solapur, Maharashtra saw 20 patients during his visit in October.

Attendance in conferences, trainings

Who ~ What ~ When ~ Where

Dr Sajjala Joshi, Dy Manager, Administration, and Maya Kharche, Senior Technologist & Infection Control Committee Coordinator ~ XV national conference ~ Hospital Infection Society of India ~ Oct 3-6 ~ Hyderabad

Dr Mahesh Hemadri, Medical Officer & Incharge, GV Modi Rural Health Care Centre ~ 15th international conference on Geriatric Care & Gerontology ~ Geriatric Society of India ~ Oct 26-28 ~ Pune





Dr Mahesh Hemadri at a conference

Dr Pankaj Gupta, Paediatrician ~ 21st national conference on Paediatric Infectious Diseases ~Indian Academy of Paediatrics ~ Oct 26-28 ~ Ahmedabad

Dr VC Bhatnagar, Medical Superintendent & Senior Consultant Ophthalmologist ~ Winter conference 2018 ~ Delhi Ophthalmological Society ~ Nov 17-18 ~ Delhi

Dr Prateek Jain, Registrar, Ophthalmology ~ 41st conference ~ Rajasthan Ophthalmological Society ~ Nov 2-4 ~ Jaipur

Dr Prateek Jain at a conference

Lectures delivered

When ~ What ~ Who

Oct 20 ~ Recent advances in cytogenetics: Implications in medicine ~ Dr Nitu Nigam, Assistant Professor, Cytogenetics Unit, King George's Medical University, Lucknow

Nov 28 ~ Promote wellness not sickness: The role of the nurse ~ Dr Radha Sukhani, eminent anaesthesiologist, Chicago

Nov 29 ~ Natural solutions to

obesity management ~ Dr Radha Sukhani, eminent anaesthesiologist, Chicago

Dec 24 ~ Observations on infection control ~ Dr Priyanka, Mumbai

New assets

A portable battery operated intra oral X-ray and a VITROS 250 system electrolyte cum drug analyser were procured in October. A non-invasive flow driver system based paediatric ventilator was installed in November. Pramila Kundnani donated towards this valuable equipment.

Surgery consultations in the field

GI, general & laparoscopic surgeon Dr Dilip Kothari ran four consultation clinics in Jalore between October and December, where he was approached by 48 patients. Also, there were three clinics in Sirohi, where 13 patients took his advice.

Screening for cataract

Dr Vinit Ashish, DNB ophthalmology resident, screened 170 patients at an eye screening event in village Dhanta on November 28. At another event on December 12 in village Velangri, Dr Puja Shinde, DNB ophthalmology resident, saw 97 patients.



Dr Puja Shinde, DNB ophthalmology resident, examines a patient

Specialists serving jointly

A multi specialty camp was organised in Bali, Pali district on December 23.

GI, general & laparoscopic surgeon Dr Dilip Kothari saw 45 patients, orthopaedic surgeon Dr Kailash Kadel offered his advice to 150 patients, DNB family medicine resident Dr Sagarkumar Dharsandia saw 95 patients while 31 patients sought advice from dental surgeon Dr NS Girish Kumar.



NEW SERVICE: Thalassemia Day Care Centre

On October 1, a Thalassemia Day Care Centre was inaugurated. Thalassemia is a blood disorder characterised by low

haemoglobin and fewer red blood cells than normal. This centre will treat thalassemia patients for no charges. Patients of thalassemia

man car center

tend to need frequent blood transfusions. The Sankalp India Foundation and the Rotary Club of Abu Road will contribute to the operational cost of this initiative. The centre is caring for about 28 patients of thalassemia, most of whom are children.

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The ceremonial honours were performed by the chief guest Nishant Jain, IAS, the sub-divisional magistrate of Mount Abu, the chairperson Payal Parsurampuriya, zila pramukh, the guest of honour Rotarian Naveen Jain, president of the Rotary Club of Abu Road, Suresh Kothari, chairman, Urban Improvement Trust, Abu Road, and medical director Dr Partap Midha



Representatives of social activist groups such as the Rotary Club of Abu Road, Muslim Navjawan Minjanib Committee, Lions Club Abu Road, Shaurya Jagrati Sena Abu Road and others who understand the need for blood for these patients and therefore often donate blood were also present. The programme ended with the distribution of gifts to the afflicted patients.

On December 8, doctors and guardians of thalassemia patients were counselled on the treatment and care of such patients. Dr Deepa, a haematologist from CIMS, Ahmedabad, imparted this valuable information.

New assets

A vacuum table press and a boiler, both laundry equipment were procured in November.

On November 29, a C-Arm and the Histopathology Department were inaugurated. One staff has been sent for training to run the histopathology service.



Reporting on cases



A young boy born with the capacity to hear but without ears was brought to the ENT clinic. ENT specialist Dr Kusum Bhansali reconstructed his ears using skin grafting techniques and surgically attached those to his body. She made a significant difference to the boy's appearance, as the photographs show.



suffered a serious cut in his throat that injured his airway. He was gasping for breath when he arrived in the casualty. Consultants, medical officers, casualty nurses and the OT staff rallied round to save his life. The severity of his injury can be seen in these photographs.

The man had suffered a complete separation of the larynx and trachea. His airway was safeguarded with a tracheostomy tube while the posterior and anterior wall of the trachea was sutured. Bleeding was controlled throughout the procedure.

He was kept on a ventilator for 3-4 days. Thereafter the tracheostomy tube was removed and the patient started to breathe on his own.



The Rajasthan State Aids Control Society and the Rajasthan State Blood Transfusion Council celebrated National Voluntary Blood Donation Day on October 1, 2018. At a ceremony held in Jaipur, the Rotary International Global Hospital Blood Bank was awarded for promoting voluntary blood donation in a tribal area. This event was well represented by the Rajasthan government. Kalicharan Saraf, the honourable minister for health and medical education, Government of Rajasthan, was the chief guest of the programme.

During October, blood donation drives were organised by the Seth Mangalchand College, the Agarwal Samaj, the Sindhi Samaj, and the Brahma Kumaris in Abu Road. These yielded 286 units.



Blood donation in progress in Rajpuriya

During November, several drives were conducted in government premises such as the Reodar Community Health Centre and the Middle Schools in Kandar and Rajpuriya. The Bajrang Dal, Reodar, Rajasthan Parvasi Sangh, and Maa Bhawani Sena, Rajpuriya helped organise these drives where 223 units were collected.

Other initiatives in November were organised by the Suthar Samaj in Pindwada, by the Chhipa Samaj at Reodar, by the Sangharh Yuva Samiti in Sildar, and by the Brahma Kumaris in Abu Road. These yielded 145 units.

During December, the Bajrang Sena organised a drive at the government hospital in Veerwada. The Brahma Kumaris organised two programmes at Abu Road. These yielded 200 units.

Screening for diabetic retinopathy

In 2016, Global Hospital Research Centre (through Global Hospital Institute of Ophthalmology) was chosen as an implementing partner for a

project aimed at reducing blindness due to diabetic retinopathy. This involved training the staff of a government hospital and four community health centres to screen and treat

patients of diabetic retinopathy.

Between October and December, the trained staff in the screening and treatment centres thus established in the Bangar Government District Hospital and Medical College, Pali, and in the screening centres in four Community Health Centres (CHC) in Sojat, Jaitaran, Sadri and Sumerpur, registered 91 male and 79 female patients and screened 253 male and 193 female patients. 30 patients were identified with Non-Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy (NPDR). One of these was treated.

Creating
awareness
among
grassroots
health workers is
also a key
objective of this
project as they
are responsible
for referring
suspect patients

to higher centres for checks. 186 such workers were oriented.

Dinesh Singh sharing his experience

Under the auspices of this project, World Sight Day was celebrated on October 10 at the CHC in Sadri. Members of the Pensioners' Society were invited to get their eyes checked, and given a talk on the importance of

getting early treatment for diabetic retinopathy. Dr Pooja Shinde, DNB ophthalmology resident, Dharmvir Bharti, optometrist and Yogesh Jangid, ophthalmic assistant screened 60 patients. Six patients were referred for further treatment.

On October 11, a CME was organised at Global Hospital Institute of Ophthalmology, Abu Road. Dr Prateek Jain, registrar, and consultant ophthalmologists Dr VK Sharma and Dr Seema Laad explained the importance of World Sight Day and the need to make eye care services available to all.

Dinesh Singh shared his outreach experience spanning more than two decades. He said continuous interaction had strengthened patients' faith in the medical community. He stressed the importance of understanding the challenges that patients face and providing them treatment in keeping with their circumstances.



An eye camp was organised on December 20, 2018 at village Valdara, district Jalore. The Kannojiya Rathore family of Takhatgarh and Kantilal Rathore of Mumbai sponsored this event in memory of late Sekubai Dhanroopchand Kisna Rathore.

The Brahma Kumaris centre incharge in Takhatgarh BK Bhavana helped organise this programme. Of the 651 people who were examined, 150 were diagnosed with cataract, 35 with glaucoma, 30 with corneal disease and 10 with retinal problems. 130 people were found to be suffering from allergies, 292 were treated for refractive errors and 280 pairs of glasses were distributed free of cost to the needy.

88 cataract patients were referred to the Global Hospital Institute of Ophthalmology at Abu Road where they underwent

small incision cataract surgery and had IOLs implanted. All of these patients were checked on December 26 and found to have significantly recovered their sight. In all, 14 similar screening events were organised in December. Five initiatives were organised in Sirohi district, seven in the neighbouring district of Pali, one in Jalore and one in Barmer. 6059 people were screened at the camp sites and 2741 spectacles were dispensed. 514 patients were operated on as a result of these efforts.

New assets

A laundry washer and extractor, and an applanation tonometer were procured for the Shri Adinath Fateh Global Eye Hospital in Jalore in November.

A digital and non digital applanation tonometer were procured for the Global Hospital Institute of Ophthalmology, Abu Road in November.



Workshop on applying meditation for healing

A forum on *Application of ancient wisdom with modern medical science* was arranged on December 29, in collaboration with the Human Resource Development Institute, Thailand. The Thai speakers spoke on ancient wisdom bordering predominantly on various kinds of meditation.

The faculty and the students enjoyed the diverse lectures and many asked questions.



A visiting dignitary delivering a lecture

Students create awareness

On World Mental Health Day, which falls on October 10, students arranged an awareness event at the Senior Secondary School, Bharja. They made a presentation on the theme *Young people and mental health* and also presented a skit.

On December 1, World AIDS Day, students performed a skit at Adarsh School, village Amthala. They aimed at educating the senior students about AIDS.

Promoting values in nursing

On October 11, freshers were introduced to *Values in Healthcare: A Spiritual Approach*, by Nirmala Ragbir-Day from UK and clinical instructor Chitra Sharma.

Principal Shashi Bala conducted the *Values in Healthcare: A Spiritual Approach* modules on positivity and inner values for participants of a conference held at the Akal College of Nursing, Baru Sahib, Himachal Pradesh, on October 12-13.

Assistant professors Maneesh Sharma and Chris Thomas attended *Values in Healthcare: A Spiritual Approach* training at Gyan Sarovar Mt Abu, on December 2.

Character-building activities

Students participated in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan organised by the Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya on October 15.

Students celebrated an environment-friendly Diwali. They lit diyas and held competitions and avoided bursting any crackers.

Upgrading staff skills

Principal Shashi Bala, assistant professors Harish Nair and Maneesh Sharma and 20 students attended Unfolding the miseries of a cancer patient, Redefining oncology nursing, an international Conference held at CKD International Nursing College (Khalsa College), Amritsar from November 14 to 16. Shashi Bala made a presentation, Compassion fatigue, managing grief in health care providers.



Principal Shashi Bala, chief of nursing staff Rupa Upadhye at the CKD International Nursing College (Khalsa College), Amritsar

Principal Shashi Bala delivered a lecture *Philosophy*, aims, objectives and implications of genomics in nursing research at the 22nd annual national conference of the Nursing Research Society of India, held at Kolkata from November 29 to December 1.

Assistant professor Chris Thomas attended a conference on universal health coverage in Delhi from November 29 to December 1. This was arranged by the Indian Nursing Council and endorsed by the International Council of Nursing.



Free ante natal checks in villages Chandela and Uplagarh

Medical officer with the Village Outreach Programme Dr Manisha Maindad conducts ante natal checks in villages Chandela and Uplagarh. She informs the grassroots worker of her visit in advance, so that pregnant women can be duly informed and avail of the service. Usually, these checks are conducted on a Thursday, as that is when the auxiliary nurse & midwife attached with the local primary health centre offers free tetanus immunisation to pregnant women. Dr Maindad also distributes iron supplements to pregnant women.

VOP patients seen Oct - Dec 2018

1466

PATIENTS

CONSULTED IN THE FIELD

594 VOP WALK IN PATIENTS

46 ADMITTED PATIENTS

Are you a medical professional?

Would you like to volunteer at J Watumull Global Hospital & Research Centre?

Global Hospital accepts volunteering requests from doctors (graduate / post graduate) for the hospital based services as well as for its community outreach programmes.

Requests from nurses, laboratory technicians and pharmacists are also entertained subject to the need.

Email ghrchrd@ymail.com for more details

You will need to submit your educational documents for your request to be processed.

Global Hospital provides volunteers lodging / boarding.

Tax exemption on donations

Under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act of 1961, Indian donors can deduct 50% of their donation to Global Hospital & Research Centre from their income for the purpose of computing taxable income. To know more, email info@ghrc-abu.com

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