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HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT OF THE MONTH

DIABETES, HYPERTENSION BECOMING TWIN EPIDEMIC OF DELHI

62 percent of diabetics in the capital have inadequately controlled blood sugar level despite treatment while another 27% have kidney complications. In addition, 65 percent of the diabetic patients are hypertensive. This has been revealed in a recent study by Aventis Pharma Limited [Sanofi-Aventis group] as part of its “screening India’s twin epidemic project”. The study has aimed at increasing awareness about diabetes and hypertension. The data collected through study is important as it gives information about many undiagnosed uncontrolled diabetes and hypertension. Clearly there is a strong need for early screening of these diseases.

GE HEALTHCARE AND ASCOM PARTNER TO ENHANCE MOBILE CLINICIAN COMMUNICATION

GE Healthcare and Ascom Wireless Solutions plan to launch a wireless hospital-wide messaging system, to improve workflow and communication for healthcare providers. The agreement aligns the GE Healthcare patient monitoring platform with Ascom’s wireless communication solutions to enable hospitals to customize, filter and send secondary alarms to clinicians’ Ascom Voice over IP (VoIP) phones, pagers and Digital Enhanced Cordless Telecommunications (DECT) handsets. This will address the challenge of inability of the nurses to communicate effectively wirelessly.

LOW NUTRITION DISTRICTS TO BE MAPPED FOR SURVEILLANCE

The Union women and child development ministry will map the high risk and vulnerable districts to strengthen nutrition surveillance. In addition to this, ministry will also launch a joint training initiative with the health and family welfare ministry under the NRHM and the ICDS. This will also helping in setting up a working group for surveillance in health and nutrition and to strengthen core of pregnant mothers. Human resources improvement will also be done by focusing on the role of ASHA, AWW and ANM at the village level.

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY PASSED RESOLUTION TO FIGHT PNEUMONIA

On 21st May, for the first time ever, the world health assembly passed a resolution focused on prevention and treatment of pneumonia, the world’s leading killer of children with India being worse affected. The pneumococcal disease kills 1.4 lakh Indian children every year.
INDIA’S OWN VACCINE AGAINST SWINE FLU ON TRIAL

The Pune based Serum institute of India have developed India's first H1N1 Vaccine which is purely an indigenous product. According to the company sources the vaccine is a harmless nasal spray type one which can be used by anyone above the age of 3 years, except pregnant women. The vaccine is priced at Rs. 150 with its side effects being running nose and a bout of sneezing. The phase three of trial was a double blind placebo one involving 350 people of varying age groups. The testing of samples was done by Serum institute and national institute of virology, pune and the trials were conducted in three institute of pune, one each in Hyderabad and Indore.

GATES FOUNDATION AWARDS FRESH ROUND OF GLOBAL HEALTH GRANTS

In addition to the 21.6 billion $ grants already invested in philanthropic activities by BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION since 1994 , the foundation has recently announced an addition 78 grants each worth 100000$. Some of the recipients of the grant include the approaches of refined rent of cell phone based microscope for diagnosis of malaria, the study of insect eating plants as a counter measure to insect borne disease and development of nanotechnology applications for administering of vaccine. At present 6 countries and 18 nations are represented among recipients.

WORLD BANK BOOSTS FOCUS ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.

The World Bank released a new 5 year reproductive health action plan to reduce high fertility rates and prevent maternal and child deaths in 58 developing countries. It will do this by increasing access to contraceptives, encouraging more frequent prenatal visits for pregnant women, expanding education on the subject and investing more in training new health workers.

CARE CELEBRATES THE INTRODUCTION OF THE GLOBAL MOMS ACT IN U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Global MOMS Act will create a comprehensive maternal health and newborn strategy that would be implemented through the United States government’s Global Health Initiative. It also would improve coordination among United States agencies that are already working to improve care for women and their children. “The U.S. government's commitment to maternal and child health programs has made an enormous difference in saving the lives of millions of women and children globally each year. But women continue to die at an alarming rate from preventable causes. More must be done,” said Dr. Helene Gayle, president and CEO of CARE. “By investing in proven strategies for reducing maternal mortality and improving the health of women and their children, the Global MOMS Act would help save many more lives. Now is the time to pass this legislation -- nearly every minute we wait, another woman dies.”
**DO YOU KNOW?**

1. World Thalassemia Day was observed on 8th May.
2. Birth control pill marked its 50th birthday on 9th May.
3. 12th May was observed as International Nurses Day.
4. Workshop on renewable energy for hospitals and healthcare institutions.
5. A system that uses bar codes can cut down on hospital medication errors.
6. Campaign to stop mother - to - child HIV spread by global fund.
7. World No Tobacco Day was celebrated on 31st May.

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**CURRENT TOPIC**

National Oral Health Care Program (NOHCP)

**INTRODUCTION**

The National Oral Health Care Programme was launched as a pilot project in 1999 to reduce the increasing morbidity due to oral-dental problems in the country. It was implemented in Maharashtra, Punjab, Delhi, Kerala, and the North-Eastern states. The main focus of this program is on primary prevention through generation of awareness which is the most cost-effective, appropriate and desirable technique. Under this project, All India Institute of Medical Sciences has been made a nodal agency. The total budget proposed for the National Oral Health Care Programme in the 11th five-year plan is Rs.182.09 crores.

**GOALS**

1. Oral Health for all.
2. To bring down the incidence of dental caries to less than 30% by 2012.
3. To reduce the number of fluorosis cases in all age groups to less than 4% by 2012.
4. To reduce high prevalence of periodontal diseases in 15+ age group to lower prevalence i.e. less than 35% by 2012.
5. At the age of 18 years, 85% should retain all their teeth.
6. To achieve 50% reduction in edentulousness between the age of 35-44 years.
7. To achieve 25% reduction in edentulousness at the age of 65 years and above.
8. To bring down level of malocclusion and Dento-facial deformities in the age group of 9-14 years to less than 25% by 2012.
9. To reduce the number of new cases of Oral Cancers and precancerous lesions to less than 0.02% by 2012.

**STRATEGIES**

The strategies proposed for the eleventh 5-year plan for oral health include:

1. Oral health education by involving health workers, schoolchildren, teachers and mass media.
2. Formulation of a Basic Package on Oral Health (BPOC) for the country and its implementation.
3. Manpower and infrastructure development and capacity building for primary and secondary prevention of oral diseases.
4. Mobile Dental Clinics to provide on the spot diagnostic, preventive, interceptive and curative services to the people and school children in far flung rural areas of the State, to be made available.
5. Monitoring of dental public health as well as research through National, State, and District Oral Health Cells.