IIHMR New Delhi, works with a mission of improving standards of health through better management of healthcare and related programmes, prepare students for managerial positions with a focus on national and international healthcare management.

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SYNAPSE

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH INSIGHT OF THE MONTH

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES SABLA, A SPECIAL SCHEME FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS

The Central government has launched SABLA or Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Adolescent Girls as a special scheme for the health and well being of girls. It has started as a pilot project in the 200 most backward districts of the country. The basic function of the scheme would be to address the nutritional and special training aspects of girls between 11 and 18 years of age.

INCIDENCE OF HIV CASES REDUCED SIGNIFICANTLY IN LAST 10 YEARS

According to UNAIDS, a reversal of the AIDS epidemic has been recorded for the first time in India. This is because the high prevalence states like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have cut down on new infections. The prevalence among adults has fallen by 14 percent over the past decade.

INCREASE IN HOSPITAL-BASED DELIVERIES HAS LED TO DROP IN INFANT DEATHS IN DELHI

District Level Household Survey (DLHS) 2007-08 has shown that hospital-based deliveries have increased by 6.1 percent in the last four years. This in turn has helped bring down infant deaths from 57 per thousand live births in 2006 to 53 per thousand live births in 2008.

NO MORE VISA RESTRICTIONS FOR HIV PATIENTS COMING TO INDIA

The Ministry of External Affairs has stated that there are no travel or residency restrictions for People Living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (PLHIV) who will come to the country. India is thus amongst the few countries besides USA and China that has lifted their travel restriction for PLHIV. Such impositions were regulated earlier (in 1980s) due to lack of knowledge about HIV.

INDIA, U.S. EYE NEW HEALTHCARE TARGETS

A new disease centre and increased collaboration in the field of healthcare have been the highlights of US President Barack Obama’s health sector agenda during his visit to India. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed for setting up a global disease detection centre in Delhi.

23rd ISSUE, 7th DECEMBER 2010

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

1) National Conference on bringing Evidence into Public Health Policy (EPHP) - Five years of the NRHM.
   Date: 10th - 12th December, 2010.
   Venue: Bengaluru, Karnataka
   Website: http://www.ephp.in/

2) Medifest India
   Date: 13th - 15th December, 2010.
   Venue: New Delhi.
   Website: http://www.vantagemedifest.com

3) Benchmark Six Sigma Green Belt Training.
   Date: 5th - 8th January, 2011.
   Venue: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
   Website: http://www.benchmarksixsigma.com

   Date: 8th - 9th January, 2011.
   Venue: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
   Website: http://www.IHRforline.com
support towards dealing with diseases like HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. The new centre will facilitate human resource development in the field of healthcare and aims to share best practices for detection and response to emerging infections. “Because the wealth of a nation also depends on the health of its people, we'll continue to support India's efforts against diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS”, President Obama quoted during his address.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO LAUNCH DIABETIC SCREENING CENTRES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad announced the launch of Diabetes Screening Scheme for school children on World Diabetes Day (14th November). The scheme will aim at informing the people about the availability of treatment and sensitizing them about Diabetes through SMS (Short Messaging Service). The scheme has been launched in major metro cities of India and covers people aged 30 years and above and pregnant women.

GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE MAY SAVE US $40 - 50 BILLION

According to a study ‘Economic Analysis of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative’ published in the journal Vaccine - the global initiative to eradicate polio could provide net benefits of at least US $40 – 50 billion. It will be possible if transmission of wild polio virus is interrupted within the next 5 years. The study has provided the first rigorous evaluation of the benefits and costs of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), which is the single largest project ever undertaken by the global health community.

GATES FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES $1 MILLION TO NINE GRANTEES

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has announced nine "Grand Challenges Explorations grantees", each of whom will receive up to $1 million to fund original and innovative research into solutions for global problems such as disease, poverty and hunger. Among the grantees is Dr. Mark Davis of Stanford University, who is working to create a new method to quantify and profile cellular immune responses to vaccinations, specifically for the influenza and rotavirus vaccines. Other projects receiving support include efforts to create light barriers that can repel malaria-carrying mosquitoes, research on the use of proteins, called homing endonucleases, and exploration of the use of molecule-coated gold nano crystals.

DRUG TAKEN AS A PROPHYLACTIC REDUCES RISK OF HIV INFECTION

An international trial provides proof that a tablet ‘Truvada’ (containing two drugs) which is used for the treatment of HIV/AIDS; can also prevent it. The study was carried out by the independent Gladstone Institute on behalf of National Institutes of health in six countries: Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, South Africa, Thailand & the United States. It was published in New England Journal of Medicine. The drugs were tried on
the population with a high risk of HIV infection (men who have sex with men, transgender women who have sex with men) and there was a significant reduction in HIV infections among those who took it.

MATERNAL MORTALITY AFFECTS CITY SLUMS

In an analysis done by members of various NGOs like CHETNA and White Ribbon Alliance (WRA) it was found that women are still dying of complication like anaemia, post delivery haemorrhage, septicemia in the urban areas. Even in cities like Delhi women do not have access to adequate healthcare facilities.

SURVIVAL RATE IN GALL BLADDER CANCER DOUBLES

According to a study done at AIIMS, a new chemotherapy regimen doubles the lifespan of patients suffering from end-stage gall bladder cancer. Previously the only curative treatment was the removal of gall bladder and its surrounding parts. This is the fourth most common cancer among women in north India after breast, cervix and ovary cancer. This has been published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. World’s AIDS day was observed on 1st December 2010.
2. 6th World and 1st Indian Organ Donation Day was celebrated on 27th November 2010.
4. England takes the first step to legalize assisted dying.
5. Himachal Pradesh launches BPL medicine scheme.
6. 12 - 16% Kids suffer from Type II Diabetes in India.

Left to Right: Dr. Maitreyi Kollegal (Director, IIHMR), Dr. James Maddirala (Vice Provost and Associate Vice President, Jackson State University, Mississippi, USA and Executive Director of Global HIV/AIDS Alliance (GHAA)), Dr. Murali Krishna (Professor and Director, R & D at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University [Retd.] and Visiting Professor at Jackson State University, Mississippi, USA) and Dr. Mario Azevedo (Dean, College of Public Service and Professor in School of Public Health, Jackson State University, Mississippi) visited International Institute of Health Management Research, New Delhi on 1st December 2010 (World AIDS Day).
The School Health Programme (SHP) was launched by Union Government to address health, education, environment & nutrition related issues in a comprehensive framework under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

The School Health Programme intends to cover 12,88,750 government and private aided schools covering around 22 Crore students all over India. Twenty six states have also provisioned for the School Health Program in their Program Implementation Plans (PIPs). It focuses on effective integration of health concerns through decentralization management at district level with determinants of health like sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, safe drinking water, gender and social concern. Through this program Government aims to universalize immunization, management of common childhood ailments, nutrition services as well as improve health awareness and health seeking behavior. As a cost effective measure, good health increases enrollment and reduces absenteeism.

COMPONENTS OF SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME

SHP includes screening, health care and referral, immunization, micronutrient (Vitamin A and IFA) management, de-worming, health promotion in schools, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, mid day meals.

BENEFITS

- It increases the number of attendees going to the school; (specially the number of girls) and ultimately there are better educational outcomes.
- It increases the efficacy of other investments in child development.
- It ensures good current and future health for the children.

Its partners: Health-Promoting Schools (HPS) and Focusing Resources on Effective School Health (FRESH).

REFERENCES: