



Public Health Happenings

An Initiative by Jodhpur School of Public Health - JSPH

JSPH initiative - Care for People with Disabilities



JSPH in line with WHO, acknowledges oral diseases as part of the non communicable chronic disease group and is committed to advocate for better oral health at a local and global level.

New Year JSPH conducted Oral Care Awareness cum Check Up Camp on Jan 2, 2017 at Tepsn and Hepsn center for differently able children, Jodhpur. Mentally challenged children are more prone to tooth decay or gum diseases and are at a higher risk. They need special care as oral health awareness is low, poor coordination of body and require additional access



Mrs. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil (Ex. President of India). Initially the school was started with only two children and now the number has increased more than sixty.

and 15 staff / parents benefited from care provided. Children and staff who needed dental treatment were referred to dental centers.

Activity: Oral health awareness talk was organized for parents and staff of centre followed by oral health check for all. Around 30 students

“Good oral health empowers people with disabilities to face the world with more confidence, promoting their participation and contribution.”



Different population is affected by oral diseases differently; thinking of this and of our commitment to raise oral health awareness we plan to initiate “Oral Care for People with Disabilities

to dental services. **About Tepsn and Hepsn center:** The model school for the mentally challenged children is being running behind K.N.College, Jodhpur since inauguration of the centre on 15/07/2006 by the Ex-Governor H.E.

“ Many of the major public health challenges will only be addressed if we engage with processes that shape our living environment ”



Dr. Nitin Kumar Joshi, Asst. Professor at the Jodhpur School of Public Health (JSPH) is a renowned Oral Health Specialist and Tobacco Intervention Initiative Specialists. His research interests include oral health, tobacco control, efficacy and effectiveness of dental procedures and preventive oral health, especially, among

children and older people and oral public health. Dr. Joshi has published several papers in various National and International Public health journals recently he represented JSPH at Global Oral Cancer Forum, New York. During an exclusive talk with "Public Health Happenings" Newsletter he shared his views on Oral Cancer and Tobacco Issues.

Being a Tobacco Control Advocate please tell us something about Oral Cancer Scenario in India?

India continues to report the highest prevalence of oral cancers globally with 75,000 to 80,000 new cases of such cancers reported every year. Most of this type of cancer can be attributed to the use of chewing tobacco considering more Indians chew tobacco than smoke it. India alone accounts for 86 per cent of the total oral cancer figure across the world and chewing tobacco and Gutka contribute to 90 per cent of oral cancer cases in the country.

What are the statistics of Childhood Cancer in India?

According to the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), a decade back, childhood cancers were 2.5% of the total number of cancer cases. Today, they add up to 5.5%. Tata Memorial Centre in Mumbai's Parel area alone treats 2,000 new pediatric cancer cases annually. Oral cancer incidence in the pediatric population is comparatively <0.25% however younger individuals are the susceptible sector of the society, with an undue exposure of risk factors such as tobacco.

What are your findings on causes of Oral Cancer specially in India?

In India, prevalence of oral cancer is increasing in teenagers and even 13-year-olds are reporting with oral cancer which is due to the tobacco and gutka usage. Children from lower-socio

economic groups start working early and get exposed to this habit.

Areca nut consumption by young children at early age acts as the "stepping stone" to smokeless tobacco consumption.

Furthermore, tobacco is considered to be a "gateway drug" which may lead to use of alcohol, marijuana, and other harmful illegal drugs. This is the sequence most of the time with the main culprit being "areca nut use" at a very early age (6-12 years). Also, research has comprehensively established that areca nut is a potential carcinogen. Betel nut, Pan Masala, Gutkha and tobacco causes OSMF.

What is OSMF?

Oral submucous fibrosis (OSMF), a precancerous condition is generally associated with chewing areca nut. OSMF is commonly seen in lower socio-economic group children. OSMF creates potential for malignancy and could be a life threatening condition. Management of OSMF expensive & it can be prevented and controlled to a large extent by giving health education and motivation to children, parents and school teachers. It is therefore essential to combat OSMF by preventive approach with focus on health education and promotion.

What are initiatives taken by JSPH in spreading awareness and screening of Oral Cancers?

In line with The National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), JSPH is striving to bring about greater awareness of the harmful effects of tobacco use and about the Tobacco

Control Laws.

Thinking of fact that "children are the world's most valuable asset and its best hope for the future" and saying that "a child learns to explore the world through his mouth", JSPH is on mission to raise oral health and oral cancer awareness through oral screening, tobacco cessation programs and providing education and training on mouth self-examination with special focus on children and adolescent by various initiatives such as:-

School Oral Health Program:

Since its inception JSPH started School Oral Health Program with special focus to raise awareness about oral hygiene and harmful effects of tobacco. We have been conducting awareness programs in different schools of Jodhpur.

Tobacco Intervention initiatives (TII) centre:

In April 2015 JSPH formally received recognition from Indian Dental Association for TII Centre. We are conducting tobacco cessation activities, counseling and treatment services under JSPH-TII Centre.

Oral Cancer Awareness (OCA) Clinic:

JSPH-OCA Clinic located in cancer hospital is working to raise oral cancer awareness through oral cancer screening, education and training on mouth self examination.

Community surveys:

JSPH has been conducting surveys focused on tobacco and oral cancer in various rural and urban localities. We are disseminating our reports at various national and international platforms to advocate for tobacco cessation.

Public Health Wellness Clinic:

JSPH through its wellness clinic is working

with the mission to ensure equitable access to health and wellness services for all including the poorest sections of the society, especially women, adolescents and children with special focus on tobacco cessation and awareness about oral cancer.

Trainings and Workshops:

On regular basis we are organizing various training and workshops for health professionals and students for oral cancer screening and tobacco cessation. JSPH in collaboration with Click Medix, USA developed a m Health application for oral cancer screening especially to train dental professionals and community health workers.

Collaborations: As a part of its commitment and to strengthen efforts to raise awareness for oral cancer and tobacco cessation JSPH has developed collaboration with various organizations viz. Indian Dental Association, Nutrition Society of India, You and I foundation, Sanchetee hospital and Cancer Institute, Click Medix, USA, Dental College etc.



JSPH
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Sh. C.P. Sancheti

He said that Public Health workers at JSPH are very well trained to spread awareness about the health issues in community.

He also shared that Navjyoti Manovikas Kendra is striving to empower intellectual disable children with comprehensive education, life skills vocational training and work opportunities so that they are able to lead a quality life with respect and dignity.

Over long journey of 25 years, many children and their families have benefitted through their efforts. The impact of intervention is visible in



children and families. It is gratifying to see them all changing for the better. There is lot more to be done for them and many more children to be brought into the ambit.

To work with persons with intellectual deficiency, cerebral palsy, Autism and multiple disabilities.

To provide equal opportunity for rehabilitation through education, vocational training and main streaming.

Sh. C.P. Sancheti, Vice Chairman at Navjyoti Manovikas Kendra strongly believes that poverty and disability does not come in the way of realizing one's latent potential, what is required is proper access to education and opportunity.

He also mentioned a special thanks to Jodhpur School of Public Health for their contributions in Navjyoti Manovikas Kendra specially in bringing international experts to Jodhpur for their inputs in betterment of society and community.



JSPH alumni Dr. Praveen Bamaniya Appointed as District Health Manager (NRHM)



JSPH alumni Dr. Yogesh Jain Appointed as Faculty in Dept. of Public Health - Lachoo Memorial College, Jodhpur



Members of Team JSPH during training of Revive - Village Health Workers at Revive Villages



Revive in association with JSPH is looking forward to provide special focus on Health care and Health education. Today, Revive Project is improving the lives of over 12,000 people and proving that organic agriculture combined with social business values can change the world.

JSPH representation at National Conference



JSPH reflected tobacco hazards amongst mining workers. Dr. Nitin Joshi represented JSPH at National Conference on Health, Safety & Environment Issues in Mining at Dept. Of Mining Engineering - MBM Engineering College, Jodhpur. In study with limited sample size it was found that prevalence of tobacco use among mine workers was very high compared to that in the general population. This study emphasizes a pressing need for more comprehensive messaging of the harmful repercussions of tobacco use.

The Jodhpur School of Public Health (JSPH) received a multi-year grant from the Tata Trust to design and test a Jodhpur community-based strategy using mobile health technology to survey households in order to detect and triage individuals at risk for diabetes. The project is implemented in partnership with Marwar Muslim Educational and Welfare Society (MMEWS), Click Medix and Western Diabetes Institute. Over a period of one year, beginning September 2015, fifty Community health workers (CHWs) have been trained in using a mobile based application for screening participants at a high risk for Diabetes. The voluntary CHWs have screened 5000 members of the community from five wards of the city. A follow up survey was conducted to see whether those screened for high risk got themselves

SIR RATAN TATA TRUST PROJECTS AT JODHPUR SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

further evaluated for diabetes. Over a period of three years it is proposed to survey a population of 20,000 from urban and rural areas of the district.

The JSPH mHealth Diabetes Community Risk Screening Program has been highly acclaimed by both local and National level health authorities from the NCD wing

of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi. As the project has stepped in its second year, Enrollment & Orientation of CHW's from various leading Nursing , Public Health , Pharmacy etc institutions for Cohort II has been started . The training of application and field training will be provided to the selected students.

Enrollment & Orientation of CHW's - Cohort II



India needs to Invest more in Public Healthcare: WHO

Kolkata, Dec 11 (PTI) India needs to invest more in public healthcare and build a robust health delivery system in all aspects, including infrastructure and human resources, with special focus on rural areas, the WHO today said.

"We know that nations need a healthy population to prosper. Stepping up investment in public healthcare is pivotal to sustaining India's economic growth. Investing in health is investing in India's growth story," Dr Henk Bekedam, WHO Representative to India, told PTI.

"We, therefore, need to and swiftly advance and accelerate progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the Sustainable Development Goals, especially the health goal," he suggested.

According to Bekedam, though India has made enormous progress in the healthcare sector in recent past, still "60 million people are in

povert

y through paying healthcare bills mainly because of the country's low investment in health, inadequate financial protection and high out-of-pocket expenditure".

He said many more abstain from health services or delay seeking healthcare due to financial difficulties.

In this context, the WHO proposed a few steps of working with the government to position health higher on the agenda, both at the national and state levels.

Besides investment, strengthening the systems to detect and respond to outbreaks and new emerging diseases,

acceler



ating effective financial protection to ensure no one goes into poverty as a result of using health services and finally, ensuring that there is a strong monitoring and evaluation system in place are also required, Bekedam said.

He also praised India for combating HIV, TB and malaria as well as the avertable maternal and child mortality, saying the country's major challenge is "safeguarding the population from slipping into poverty due to healthcare bills".

"All these require increased investments, as has been demonstrated from global experiences with SARS, pandemic

A/H1N1, H5N1, Nepal earthquake and Ebola. Strengthening the surveillance capacity is a key step forward. We still have a high burden of communicable diseases.

"Adding to this is increased noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and we need to invest more in creating awareness about prevention of NCDs," Bekedam said.

On whether India is ready to face the emerging threat of lifestyle diseases, he said, "The NCD agenda is complex, requires a call for a coordinated multi sectoral response through a 'whole of government' and 'whole of society' approach."

(This story has not been edited and is generated from PTI Sorce.)

'Swachh Swasth Sarvatra' - Launched by Government of India

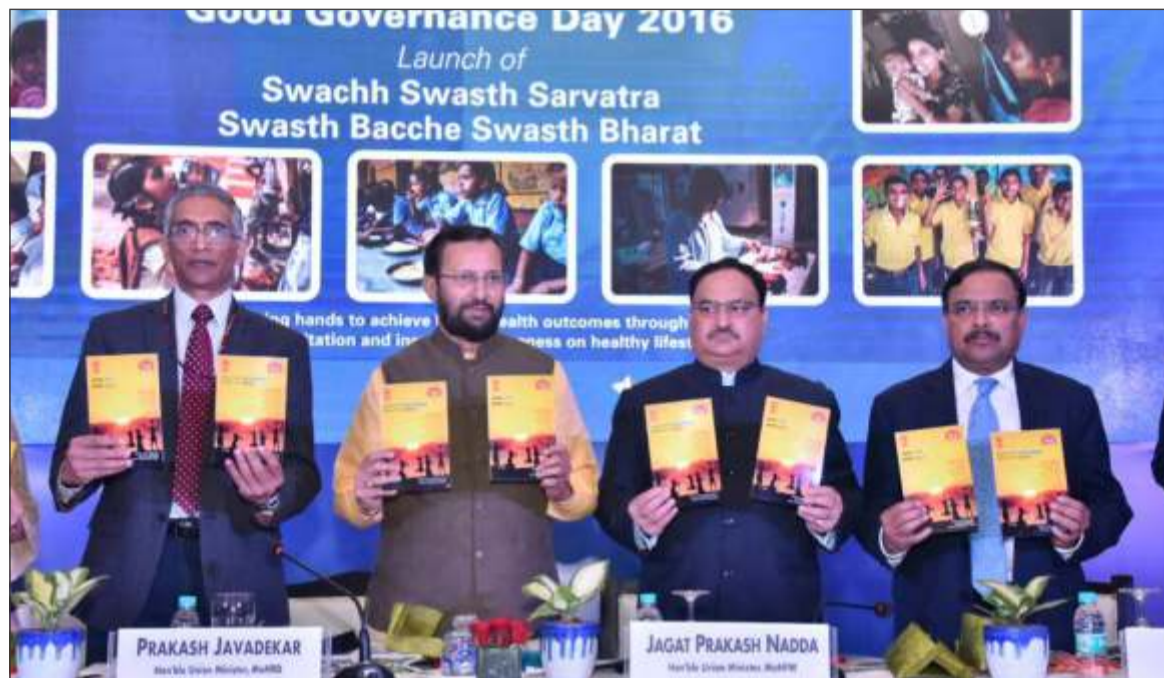
Source PIB - 29-December

The initiatives we are undertaking today will have far reaching and deep impact on the health outcome of the country: J P Nadda

This is a much needed programme to achieve open defecation free India by 2019; should become people's movement: Prakash Javadekar
Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare Shri J P Nadda and Union Minister of Human Resource Development Shri Prakash Javadekar

launched 'Swachh Swasth Sarvatra' to commemorate Good Governance Day at a function, here today. Swachh Swasth Sarvatra is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation to achieve better health outcomes through improved sanitation and increased awareness and healthy lifestyles.

Addressing the participants, Shri Javadekar said that the Prime Minister has successfully amplified the need for clean India and today this is the most popular programme that resonates with citizens across India. Advancing from Swachh Bharat to Swastha Bharat is a natural step. Open Defecation Free (ODF) should not be limited to creation of infrastructure alone but it should also bring the positive change in the habits and mindset of people. "Swachh Swastha Sarvatra" is a much needed



programme to achieve open defecation-free India by 2019. This should become people's movement and that is our endeavor," Shri Javadekar said. Terming children as change agents he stated, "I believe that millions of students can become the change agents in driving ODF message in their homes, villages and districts."

Shri Javadekar further highlighted and appreciated the efforts made by individuals in far flung areas through their personal initiatives to make their area open defecation free and bring about necessary transformation at local level towards healthy and clean living.

Elaborating on the Kayakalp awards, an initiative of the health Ministry in bringing about high standards of sanitation and hygiene in public health facilities, Shri Nadda said that the seriousness and focus of the Ministry towards cleanliness and sanitation can be gauged from the fact that in

Kayakalp under the Central Government Hospitals category the first prize is of Rs. 5 crores, the second is of Rs. 3 crores and third is of Rs. 1 crore and this year prestigious institutes like Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh and All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi and North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS), Shillong were the winners. "Now there is a competition among various categories of the awards and this is leading to a change in habits and mindset at every level" Shri Nadda stated.

Shri Nadda informed that the Health Ministry is working on the theme of "Catch them Young" and is working on effecting positive behavior change among the young to keep away from such habits that cause Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs). He added that through pictorial books- 'Swasth Bacche Swasth Bharat' prepared by Central Health

Education Bureau (CHEB), health messages shall be brought out that will educate the children and youth about healthy living habits and activities. The Ministry has distributed these books on healthy living across schools in India, the Minister added.

To complement and leverage the efforts and achievements made so far, the MDWS and the MOHFW have launched a joint initiative today - Swachh Swasth Sarvatra. The three key components of Swachh Swasth Sarvatra are:

- Community Health Centres (CHCs) in ODF blocks supported to achieve Kayakalp certification
- Gram Panchayat of Kayakalp Primary Health Centres (PHCs) prioritized to become ODF
- Training in WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) of CHC/PHC nominees

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