

Implementation of Basic Health Workers Programme in Uttar Pradesh

By

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As a result of the meeting held in the Directorate of Medical & Health Services, Lucknow, U.P. on September 19, 1978, it was decided to organize a short-programme for A.N.M. Tutors of U.P. in order to assist them in the implementation of Basic Health Workers' Programme. Dr. (Miss) A. Chandy, Principal, College of Nursing, Kanpur agreed to design a programme of one week orientation for the Superintendents of Health Schools and Tutors of A.N.M. Training Centres of the State within the existing facilities available in the College of Nursing, Kanpur.

Considering the exigency of the situation, priority was given to conduct the orientation programme immediately. With persistent efforts, it was possible to organize the programme and conduct the First Session from November 6 to 11, 1978 at the College of Nursing, Kanpur. Seventeen members out of twenty deputed participated in the programme. They represented seventeen districts including the remote areas of U.P.

The main purpose of the programme was to assist the participants to design and develop a curriculum for their schools and implement the Syllabus recommended for Basic Health Workers.

During the one week programme, all aspects of curriculum were examined, analyzed and discussed in all its dimensions. Specific exercises were provided in developing philosophy, objectives, course outlines, procedure break down, selection and organization of learning experiences, systems and methods of teaching, selection and utilization of A.V. Aids, evaluation procedures and managerial duties and responsibilities.

On the request of the participants, visits were arranged to Health Centres and also to Encephalitis unit and other Intensive Care units including Cardiology and Cancer Insti-

tute etc. where complex health services are provided.

A comparison of pre-and post evaluation tests revealed a significant change in the participants' knowledge, understanding, skill and attitude. Though one week is a short time, it brought about a remarkable out come on the final day assessment. 99% of the participants expressed that they were able to accomplish the objectives developed for one-week Orientation Programme. 1% expressed difficulty to follow the proceedings of the Orientation programme in the post evaluation test.

The crucial problems brought about by the participants are as follows :-

- (i) The teachers of A.N.M. Schools are asked to start Basic Health Worker's course without prior preparations.
- (ii) Short programmes of this kind should be repeated after every three years and all teachers should be given opportunities to attend this programme.
- (iii) The teachers do not have any clear directions/ordinance/policies etc. to follow the managerial aspects for implementation of Basic Health Workers Programme.
- (iv) Subject teachers are inadequate and the existing number of teachers are not able to teach all subjects prescribed for Basic Health Workers.
- (v) Teaching facilities are very inadequate for teaching subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Microbiology and Pharmacology etc.
- (vi) No assistance for clerical work is available for teachers.

(vii) Budget to meet the expenditure of School and other contingency expenses are not provided.

(viii) Transport facility is not adequate to provide all clinical experiences.

(ix) Library facility is not sufficient to meet the requirement of implementing the present syllabus.

(x) No directions are given regarding optional subjects to be taught e.g. Mathematics, languages etc.

(xi) Living accommodation is not adequate in many schools.

Dr. (Miss) A. Chandy, the Principal, College of Nursing, Kanpur has prepared recommendations with justifications regarding the above stated problems. These will be forwarded to the authorities concerned to improve the situation and make the Basic Health Workers' Programme feasible in the State. The future plan includes three more sessions of Orientation Programme one week duration to be conducted during of 1979.

The college has also committed to admit 42 suitable candidates from Public Health Section for B.Sc. Nursing in July 1979 who, after the completion of their studies, will be taking responsibilities as Chief Nursing Officers to conduct Basic Health Workers' Programme.

In the concluding session, Miss Chandy, Principal, College of Nursing as the organizer and Coordinator of the programme thanked the Professor and Head of the Department of S.P.M., G.S.V.M. Medical Colleges, Kanpur, Dr. J. S. Mathur and his team for their contributions in the Orientation programme. She also appreciated the interest and hard work of teachers, College of Nursing for attaining the objectives of the one week Orientation Programme and thanked them for the same.