

Introduction to health systems and all ongoing National health programs in India, their objectives, functioning, outcome and the role of pharmacists.

Health Systems:-

- A health system comprises all organizations, institutions and resources (elements) that are devoted to producing health actions. The intrinsic goal of a health system is to protect and improve the health of the people, that is it is concerned with people's health.
- Health systems are the foundation to achieve and ensure health for all, the 3rd Sustainable Development Goal.
- **Adjusted and balanced to meet the needs of various populations, they aim to:**
 - Promote and improve health for individuals and groups
 - Avert dangers to health
 - Protect people against financial disasters as consequences of ill health
 - Provide equitable access to health care.

National Health Programmes in India

- After independence of our nation, the National Health Programmes are launched by the Central Government for the control/ eradication of the communicable diseases, improvement of environmental sanitation, improving the standard of nutrition, control of population and promotion of rural health.
- Various International agencies have been providing technical and material assistance in the implementation of these programmes.

Following are the some of the Health Programmes: -

- ✓ National Health Mission
- ✓ Reproductive And Child Health Programs
- ✓ Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program (RNTCP) : DOTS Strategy
- ✓ National AIDS Control Program
- ✓ National Vector Borne Disease Control Program

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- ✓ Nutritional Programs
- ✓ National Anti-Tobacco Program
- ✓ Ayushman Bharat Yojana
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)

Ayushman Bharat Yojana :-

- The United Nations Development Programme classifies 'Good Health and Well-being' as one of the top 5 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)1.
- Health is a prime development goal for the current GoI. Through the National Health Policy 2017, India wants to move progressively towards Universal Health Coverage.
- Ayushman Bharat (AB) is a step in this direction. Historically, India's approach to healthcare has been fragmented and has focused on either sectoral or segmented service delivery.
- Ayushman Bharat (AB) is an endeavor to provide a need-based holistic healthcare service. AB is India's first move towards a Continuum of Care approach to providing healthcare delivery in India

Benefits of Ayushman Bharat Yojana

- Medical examination, treatment and consultation
- Pre-hospitalization expenses
- Post-hospitalization follow-up care up to 15 days
- Diagnostic procedures and lab investigation charges
- Cost of Medicine and medical consumables expenses are covered
- Non-intensive and intensive care services
- Accommodation benefits
- Medical implantation services (where necessary)
- Food services
- Treatment resulting in complications

Nation Health Mission

- National Health Mission is a strategic plan of central health ministry to strengthen the health systems in rural and urban areas National Health Rural Mission was launched in 2005 for strengthening health systems and provide better rural health Services. It was converted to National Health mission in 2013.
- **It is provided under 2 sub - missions**

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NRHM - National Rural Health Mission was launched in 2005 to provide health care to the remote rural population.

NUHM - To meet the health care needs of the urban population with the focus on urban poor.

Functions of NHM

- Antenatal and postnatal check up
- Improved facilities for Institutional deliveries
- Trained community level worker
- Complete Immunization
- Good Hospital care
- Provision of household toilets

National Mental Health Programme

- The Mental Health programme was launched during 1992 with a view to ensure availability of Mental Health Services for all, especially the community at risk and under privileged section of the population.

Respiratory Disease Control Programme

- The standard case management of ARI and prevention of death due to pneumonia is an integral part of RCH programme.
- Peripheral health workers are being trained to recognize and treat pneumonia with Co-trimoxazole.

Reference [Click here](#)

The Role of Pharmacists:-

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1. HIV/AIDS control program

- HIV/AIDS control program was the most well-known among the responding students. This may be because of Indian Pharmaceutical Association's (IPA) initiatives since 2000 in creating awareness on the roles and opportunities for pharmacists in HIV/AIDS care and prevention.
- Among the initiatives there has been National Pharmacy Week 2000 with the theme "Pharmacists to fight against HIV/AIDS"; prepared "guiding principles for pharmacists"

2. National Tobacco Control Program (NTCP)

- In this survey, 90% of the responding pharmacy students were willing to take active role in Tobacco Control. This is quite similar result as was obtained in a previous study in 2003 (92.5%)
- This acknowledges that pharmacists have a continuous interest in promoting smoking cessation. Smoking is among the most important risk factors jeopardizing public health, and thus, pharmacists' are easily accessible healthcare professionals to be involved in NTCP.
- Potential for Indian pharmacy students and pharmacists to make a definitive contribution to public health protection though NTCP should be utilized by the government of India.

3. National Family Welfare Programme

- Family planning was started in the year 1951. In 1977, the Govt. of India re-designated National Family Planning into National Family Welfare Programme and was integrated with Mother and Child Health services.
- The aim of family welfare programme is to improve the quality of life through education, nutrition, health, employment, women's welfare and rights, shelter, safe drinking water and all factors vital to the life.