

Case Study

Mother and Child Health: A Unique Program in District Sanghar

During 2004-5, the district government of Sanghar, initiated a mother and child health program in which 30 midwives were deputed in the remote health facilities to facilitate the community who do not have access to cities in case of emergency.

The said program has not only facilitated the community but more importantly it has also strengthened the basic health unit which had limited functions. In addition, the induction of midwives has also improved the efficiency and standard of the basic health unit. The BHU provides the following facilities: prenatal, post natal, child health, child delivery, and health education.

Mr. Paul Thornton

An international consultant, during his midterm review mission has highly appreciated the mother and child health program and the appointment of midwives in the remote areas of the district. During an informal conversation, he expressed his desire to further strengthen this program at grass root level and also increase the number of midwives if needed. The following are the status of midwives in SDSS program at different facilities.

The F&G specialist, in order to assess the situation, has visited various health facilities to get update on work environment. The information gathered from these facilities are as follows:

RHC Jam Nawaz Ali

The Taluka Jam Nawaz Ali is one of the Talukas of district Sanghar. But its hospital is still having the status of RHC. Dr Ameer, the MS, informed that the paper work is underway to upgrade the RHC into Taluka head quarter hospital.

He informed that under the SDSS program, equipments worth of Rs 1.2 million has been provided to RHC Jam Nawaz Ali. He also informed that two midwives Shahnilla and Ruby Bano have been posted in RHC Jam Nawaz Ali.

The MS also appreciated the midwives who are punctual, hardworking and dedicated. Both the midwives were present during the visit to the facility. Ms Ruby Bano informed that she is working in the facility since its opening. She showed the MCH register and elaborated her daily working schedule.

She conducts child deliveries, pre natal and post natal activities in the RHC. Besides this, she is also contributing to World Food Program, EPI, and health education.

Another midwife, Ms Shahnilla, stated that her activities include health education, vaccination, maintenance of OPD register, and participation in the EPI program. Dr Ameer, appreciated both the midwives and said that both of them are doing an excellent work.

GD Rawattiani

During the visit of GD Rawattiani the visiting team had a meeting with Ms Shafkat. She was available in the facility by from 8.45 am onwards. She also gave details of her daily activities and showed the MCH record. Her activities include conducting child deliveries, maintaining the record of pre natal and post natal, and also focuses on health education.

She highlighted the need for creating awareness of family planning amongst the male and female population. Every day, she conducts four to five child deliveries, 30 to 40 pre natal, and 15 to 20 child health cases.

BHU Kazi Juman Dahari

During the visit at BHU Kazi Juman Dahari the midwife Ms Aneela was present in the facility. She had maintained all the necessary records of her activities. The attendance record confirmed her punctuality. She said that after her appointment, the facility has been more beneficial for the people. Now the number of female patients has increased. In the past, due to non availability of female staff, the female patients had to travel to adjoining town Shahpur Chakar to avail medical facilities.

Dr Mohammad Yaqub Umrani has also appreciated work performance of the midwife and said that the community have greatly benefited from the services of the midwife. Now pre natal, post natal, child health, child deliveries and health education are being conducted at BHU and GHD levels which were not possible in the past. He highly appreciated the efforts of SDSSP in making this happen. The visiting team has also verified the record of Ms Aneela

RHC Sarhari

During the visit to RHC Sarhari, a meeting was held with Dr Ghulam Mustafa Leghari who is the MS of RHC. He informed that during 2004-5, the RHC had received a number of equipments from the SDSS program. All these equipments are functional and are being utilized for the benefit of the community. For example, the services of ultrasound machine are being provided on nominal charges. The F&G specialist also physically verified the availability and the work performance of the equipments and found these satisfactory. Dr Leghari further informed that Ms Babra has been posted as midwife in the RHC from the SDSS program.

BHU Maroof Dahari

Dr Ehsan, the MS, during a meeting with him has informed that BHU Maroof Dahari is one of the busiest medical facilities in the district. He said that daily 80 to 90 patients visit the facility. He also appreciated the working of the midwife Ms Fozia, who is punctual, hardworking and has maintained a record of her activities. He further stated that the induction of the midwife at BHU Level has strengthened the primary health services at the facility.

Conclusion

The visit to all the health facilities of the MCH program has found that all the midwives were punctual and present at these facilities and are doing their work very satisfactorily. They just need little improvement in their record keeping. However, the overall performances of these midwives are very satisfactory.