

IIC CALENDER ACTIVITY

Exposure and field visit for problem identification

Location: Enathimangalam Village

Institution: Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College and hospital

Duration: First Visit: August 8, 2023, to August 13, 2023; Second Visit: October 23, 2023

Objectives:

The primary aim of this community outreach program was to engage with the residents of Enathimangalam village, conducting a comprehensive assessment to identify health-related issues and innovate solutions through direct exposure and field visits. The program also aimed to provide hands-on experience to our students in understanding and addressing real-world healthcare challenges.

Preparation and Planning:

Approval was secured from the village panchayath leader, paving the way for the initiative. A meticulous initial mapping exercise was carried out by the Medical Social Workers from our department, with invaluable assistance from active village members. This led to the creation of a detailed village map, including house listings, street names, and household heads. Subsequently, microplanning was meticulously executed, assigning five families to each student for in-depth engagement. The Department of Community Medicine's senior faculty devised a structured schedule and daily plan, ensuring a focused and organized approach.

Innovation and Strategy:

The program was innovative in its approach to problem identification and solution formulation. By immersing students directly within the community, it facilitated a hands-on learning experience, enabling them to witness and understand the complexities of healthcare delivery in rural settings. This direct exposure was instrumental in identifying unique health challenges specific to the village, laying the groundwork for tailored intervention strategies.

Activities and Observations:

During the first visit, students conducted thorough assessments of their assigned families, gathering crucial data on health statuses, existing medical issues, and potential risk factors. This was complemented by the second visit, which focused on reviewing the progress made, reassessing conditions, and implementing minor interventions where possible.

Findings and Outcomes:

The program successfully identified several key health challenges within the village, ranging from nutritional deficiencies to lack of awareness regarding basic hygiene practices. These insights are currently being used to develop targeted interventions aimed at addressing the specific needs identified.

Conclusion:

The community health outreach program at Enathimangalam village stands as a testament to the power of innovative approaches in problem identification and the value of exposure and field visits in medical education. It not only enhanced the learning experience of our students but also set the stage for meaningful health interventions in the village, demonstrating the vital role of community medicine in fostering healthier communities.





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