

Monthly Progress Report

February 2022



RAMAIAH
International Centre for
Public Health Innovations

This monthly progress report entails RICPHI's activities/tasks' status for February 2022.

Trainings

Training of Health Resource Officers (HROs) at RICPHI: 3 new Health Resource Officers (HROs) joined RICPHI recently. In-depth training sessions were organized for them to get them acclimatized with the ACE-ME project and provide supplementary information about other issues that need to be addressed with the community. The rigorous 2.5-day training sessions included induction training, overview of the community outreach program, field visit to Kendenahalli village in Kaiwara, MIS related training, clinical assessment training, training on their daily reporting plans, government schemes and different medications used for Non-Communicable Diseases.

Executive Trainings: 3 members from the RICPHI team attended and completed professional and executive training sessions that were organized by the KPMG Foundation and the Knowledge Academy team. The courses undertaken were Lean Six Sigma course and Kaizen Foundation and Practitioner course. The team members undertaking the course are now certified green belts in Six Sigma and Kaizen practitioners.



AHANI School Health pilot program: The pilot school health program that was underway at V.C. Patel School, Anand, Gujarat recently completed with a visit to Anand Agricultural University as part of their culminating activity. The students learnt key insights into creating and maintaining an organic farm including different kinds of vegetables. The students also learnt the importance of greenhouse activities, seasonal vegetables, kitchen gardening, green house farming and re-using food waste.

Research

Peer reviewed publications:

Dr. Nayanjeet Chaudhury, Director, RICPHI was the keynote speaker for Dr. Mohandas Bhat Oration organized in November 2021. He spoke on 'Redefining Dental Public Health Competencies in India' at the 25th Indian Association of Public Health Dentistry National Conference. The full text of the article was published as a guest editorial in Journal of Indian Association of Public Health Dentistry (JIAPHD). The full article can be [accessed here](#).

Services

Ramaiah Community Outreach Program: This program is aimed at evolving a continuum of care model for chronic disease management in rural and peri-urban areas in 6 districts around Bangalore. Field workers called Health Resource Officers (HROs) have already been stationed at Tumkuru and catchment areas of Chikkaballapura, who facilitate establishment of peer wellness groups in the communities they serve. In Tiptur Taluka and its adjoining areas, RICPHI is engaged in improving referral linkages between local physicians and the two Ramaiah hospitals. In February 2022, the ACE-ME team met with the District Health Officials and obtained permission to initiate the community outreach activities in three more villages namely- Devanahalli, Tumkuru and Ramnagara.

BIRAC Project on Clinical Trial Network (CTN) Diabetology: RICPHI's statistician has been supporting the Central Research Cell of Ramaiah Medical College in a hospital based multi-centric diabetes registry and has developed the protocol and SOP for the study to maintain uniformity across all the sites.

Grant writing

Almonds are Us: Dr. Ruchi Vaidya, Assistant Professor, Nutrition, RICPHI submitted a proposal to the Almond Board of California along with Dr. Pramila Kalra, Dept. of Endocrinology, RMC as her mentor, titled "**Effect of almond supplementation on gut health and glycemic control in adults with prediabetes in rural settings of Karnataka, India: impact assessment in a cluster parallel randomized trial**". The proposal was shortlisted and won the grant from the Almond Board of California. The IRB review of the project is also complete, and the project team has received a provisional letter of approval from the Institutional Review Board as well as the Ethics Committee. The project will commence from August 2022.

Additional Activities

Delegates from Integral University, Lucknow

RICPHI recently hosted delegates from the Integral University, Lucknow, as part of a collaborative exposure visit between both the institutions. The delegates included Mr. Syed Mohammed Fauzan Akhtar (Executive Director), Dr. Syed Belal Hassan (Dy. Medical Superintendent and Associate Professor, Community Medicine) and Dr. Tauseef Khan (Faculty, Department of Medicine).

The two-day visit entailed an exposure to different institutions within Ramaiah campus including the Ramaiah Memorial Hospital, Ramaiah Medical College Hospital, Ramaiah Advanced Learning Centre, Ramaiah International Medical School and the Ramaiah Advanced Testing Laboratory. The delegates also visited Mylapura village in Chikkaballapura district to observe RICPHI's ACE-ME project in action. The visit ended with engaging discussion on further avenues for collaboration between the two groups of institutions in the near future.



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