

NTEP Sensitization Program at SCMCH&RI

Sri Chamundeswari Medical College Hospital and Research Institute was honoured to host the NTEP (National Tuberculosis Elimination Program) Sensitization Program on August 3, 2024, at Lecture Hall 1, Library Block.

Hats off to the Department of Community Medicine and Dr. Amulya N, Nodal Officer (Public Health) NTEP, SCMCH & RI, for expertly coordinating this successful event in collaboration with the District Tuberculosis Office, Ramanagara.

The program aimed to enhance awareness of tuberculosis and NTEP initiatives, educate participants on the latest diagnostic and treatment protocols, and emphasize the crucial role of healthcare professionals in TB elimination. Additionally, it promoted community engagement and patient-centred care in TB management.

Dr. Sheethal MP, Professor and HOD of the Department of Community Medicine, warmly welcomed the guests, highlighting the significance of TB awareness and the college's commitment to public health initiatives.

Dr. Kumar K, District Tuberculosis Officer, Ramanagara, addressed the increasing number of TB deaths in the district and requested the institution's support in detecting and treating difficult-to-treat cases and those with adverse drug reactions (ADRs). He emphasized the importance of early diagnosis, adherence to treatment, and integrating modern technology into TB management.

Dr. Manuja LM, Associate Professor, and Ms. Chandini MSW, Department of Community Medicine, introduced the guest speakers to the gathering.

Technical Session Details:

- 1. Programmatic Updates of NTEP by Dr. Shazia Anjum, WHO Consultant, NTEP-Karnataka:**
 - TB burden globally and India contributes nearly a quarter of cases and deaths
 - Prevalence survey – TB disease in vulnerable populations
 - TB diagnosis – 100% microbiological confirmation needed & CBNAAT is the preferred testing under NTEP
 - Focus on detecting latent and subclinical TB cases for elimination
 - Updated treatment guidelines - FDC according to weight bands and daily regimens
 - TB preventive therapy, adult BCG vaccination

- Government initiatives such as Nikshay Poshan Yojana, PMTBMA, and TBMGP for patient support
- Opportunities for CSR initiatives under the program

2. **Management of Tuberculosis** by **Dr. HM Virupaaksha**, Professor, Department of Respiratory Medicine, Basaveshwara Medical College, Chitradurga:

- A video introduction to TB symptoms and the importance of early treatment, especially for FMGs
- History and evolution of TB treatment
- Personal experiences and case management anecdotes
- Pathogenesis and clinical evaluation of TB cases
- Programmatic guidelines for managing drug-resistant TB (DRTB), newer drugs, and handling ADR cases
- Complications and sequelae of TB

The event concluded with an interactive session where the guest speakers addressed audience queries.

Following the interactive session, the guest speakers were honored with felicitations by Dr. Pravin GU, Principal; Dr. Nanjaraj, Vice Principal; Dr. Kumar K; and Dr. Sheethal MP.

The program highlighted the collective responsibility of healthcare professionals, students, and the community in combating tuberculosis. The Department of Community Medicine expressed gratitude to all speakers, participants, and organizers. They remain committed to supporting NTEP's goal of TB elimination in India. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Sharmila KN, Senior Resident, Department of Community Medicine.