The Path forward

In a country of 1.16 billion population of whom 31.5% are children, the no of paediatricians required to justify the cause of child health would be a huge number which at present is neither feasible nor practical. In such a situation, empowering the community physician (who often is the first and only contact to majority of the children) with the knowledge and necessary skills to manage common childhood emergencies would make a huge difference to the health of children. Thus, in an attempt to improve the morbidity and mortality in children at the community level (rural as well as urban) at the community level, a high-level meeting was held on 15th November, 2010 at the India International centre, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by national and international experts in the field of Emergency Medicine and Intensive Care including Dr J S Surpure (USA), Dr Sunit Singhi (PGIMER, Chandigarh) and Dr Suresh Gupta (SGRH, New Delhi). The meeting was attended by members of the Core Group of Paediatric Emergency Medicine from all over the country. As an editor of this journal, I had the privilege of attending the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting was "Engineering the Training Program for Health Care Providers" and was organised by the Society for Trauma and Emergency Paediatrics (STEP) and Institute of Child Health, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi.

The main objectives of the meeting were

- * To start a course on the management of common childhood emergencies for the community practitioners.
- * To identify the target group faculty for delivering the course and the group which will undergo the course?
- * To design a resource material for the course entitled "Children's Medical Emergencies a Compendium for Community Practitioners" and decide the contents and pattern of the same;
- * To decide the contents and duration of the course, and the timeline for the first course
- * To elaborate on the logistics and funding for future courses.

After much discussion and deliberation by the group members, the following points were agreed upon:

- * The first such course on common childhood emergencies for the community practitioners would be held at Chennai on 28th January, 2010 at the 'National Assembly on Paediatric Emergency Medicine' conference.
- * It would be a 4 hour workshop and the target group would be Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP). A total of 40 participants would be trained.
- * The registration would be free for the participants.
- * The course contents would be in lecture and video format accompanied by skill stations wherever applicable.
- * A proposal for funding of future courses by the Ministry of Health to be prepared and presented at the secretarial level
- * The frequency at which the course would be held to be decided after test running the first course; training of trainers for the course to be held at regular intervals to maintain quality of the course.

The core group then identified 12 most relevant common childhood emergency topics that are of importance to the community physicians. Each faculty was allotted one of the 12 topics to prepare. The deadline for preparation of the resource material including lectures was fixed at 30th Nov. The format of presentation of most of the topics was decided upon. It was decided that depending on the feedback from the participants and other core group members the contents of the resource material would be finalised.

Initiation of such an ambitious project such as this would not have been possible without the dedication of the team members who took their valuable time out to come together for a noble cause like this. We wish the group good luck in their endeavour and hope to see a healthy future for the children of our country.

> Jhuma Sankar Executive Editor

Notes and News

FAOPS 2010

The Federation of Asia and Oceania Perinatal Societies 14th-17th December, 2010 Hotel The Ashok, New Delhi, India



"Bridging Gaps in Maternal-Neonatal Health"

Upto 30th Sep 2010 India & SAARC Countries

Rs.8000 International **USD 500** Senior Citizens. PG Students & Residents* Rs. 4000 or USD 250

1st Oct 2010 - December 2010

India & SAARC Countries Rs. 9000 International USD 550

Senior Citizens, PG Students & Residents* Rs. 4000 or USD 250

On Spot India & SAARC Countries

Rs.10000 International **USD 600** Senior Citizens, PG Students & Residents* Rs. 4000 or USD 250

Workshop

India & SAARC Countries Rs.500 International **USD 35**

Accompanying Person India & SAARC Countries Rs. 5000 International **USD 400**

LAST DATE

30th Oct. 2010 FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAMME

- 10.00 am - 5.00 pm 9.00 am Registration 10.00 am 8 mini workshops in Neonatology & Perinatal medicine.

*Each delegate can choose any two workshops – one in the morning session and one in the afternoon session. Details of workshop given in the registration form 6.00 pm onwards – Inaugural Dinner

Morning Session: 1. New NRP Guideline 8.00 am - 9.00 am 2. Retinopathy Of Prematurity
3. Early VS Delayed Cord Clamping
Plenary Sessions: Meeting Challenge of IUGR
Keynote address: Ethics in Perinatal Medicine
Concurrent Symposia: 1. Neonatal Infections 9.00 am - 11.00 am 11.00 am - 11.30 noon 12.00 noon - 1.45 pm Controversies in Newborn care
 Controversies in Perinatal Care 4. Symposium on Caesarean section - 4.15 pm Awards & Free Paper Sessions 2.45 pm 7.00 pm Onwards FACULTY DINNER

- 9.00 am Morning session: 1. Perinatal Database Management Beyond NICU care
 Difficult to ventilate neonates 9.00 am 11.30 am 11.00 am12.00 noon Plenary Sessions: Perinatal Asphyxia / Global epidemic of HIE Keynote address: Perinatal Steroids 12.00 noon -1.45 pm 4 Concurrent Symposia: 1. Kernicterus Emerging /affordable Technology in Perinatal care
 Evidence based practices 4. Problems of isoimmunization

Free Paper Presentations Cultural Evening & Gala Dinner

- 3.30 pm

2.00 pm

6.00 pm Onwards

9.00 am Bridging Gaps in Maternal Neonatal Health – To meet the challenge of MDG - 11.00 am 11.30 am - 1.00 pm 4 Concurrent Sessions: 1. Community Interventions in reducing NMR in South Asia Scientific Symposia in Neonatology on Late Preterms 3. Community Interventions in reducing MMR in South Asia 4. Nutrition 1.00 pm - 1.30 pm VALEDICTORY

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