

Home-Based Newborn Care

Replication in India



Newborn deaths and a new solution



Untimely death of 4 million newborns due to non-availability of hospital care is a reality in developing countries. Is it possible to change this? Home-based newborn care provided by the trained community health workers may provide the answer

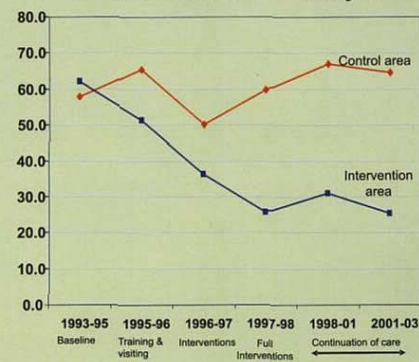
The Gadchiroli field trial

'Home-based Neonatal Care' is a new approach tested in a field trial in Gadchiroli, in which village women (community health workers) are trained and empowered to help mothers in newborn care, and if necessary, to treat sick neonates (Lancet,1999).



The four pillars of Home-based newborn care

Effect on Neonatal mortality rate

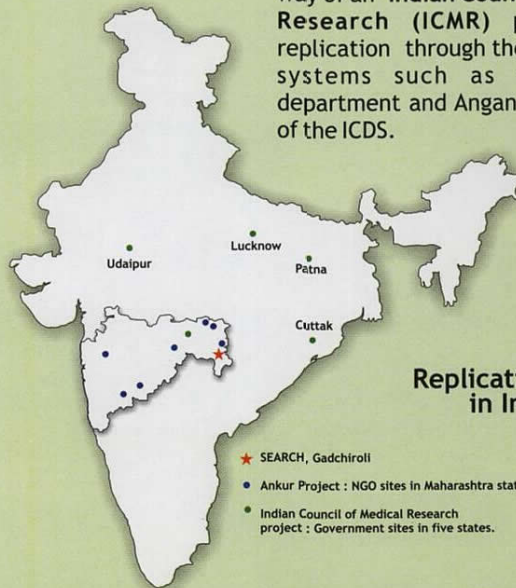




How can this be replicated elsewhere?

The methods of replication have been developed by SEARCH. Feasibility of replication and the effectiveness are being tested at 12 places through two projects in India :

- 1) The **Ankur project** for replication through non-government organizations at 7 places in the state of Maharashtra.
- 2) The *Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India* is pilot testing this method in five states by way of an **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** project for replication through the government systems such as the health department and Anganwadi workers of the ICDS.



Replication sites in India

Replication projects are supported by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, and the Saving Newborn Lives Initiative, Save the Children, U.S., and The Bill and Melinda Gates foundation.

The Ankur Project

Aim:

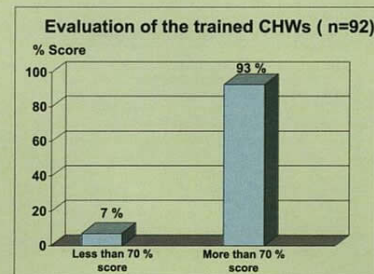
To develop and test the methods of replicating the approach from SEARCH to 7 selected NGOs in Maharashtra, as the initial step in demonstrating its generalisability for incorporating into health policies and programmes on a broader scale

Duration	: 2001-05
Population	: 88,312
No of villages	: 91 + 6 slums
Location	: 7 NGO sites in the state of Maharashtra
Type of populations	: Rural (4 sites), Tribal (2 sites), Urban Slum (1 site)

The major steps in implementation:

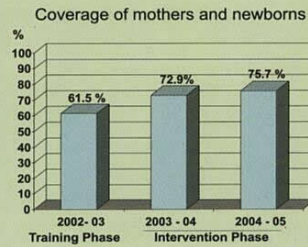
- Selection of appropriate NGOs
- Base line survey of vital statistics
- Community consent
- Selection of supervisors and community health workers (CHWs)
- Knowledge practice baseline study
- Training of trainers, supervisors and CHWs (2002-03)
- Intervention (2003-05)
- Vital statistics survey every six months

100 community workers were trained over a period of one year (2002-03) and home based neonatal care was provided through them beginning April 2003

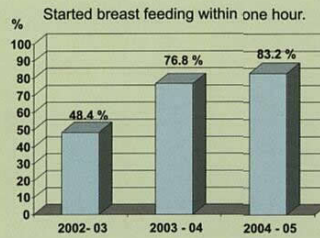


Preliminary Results

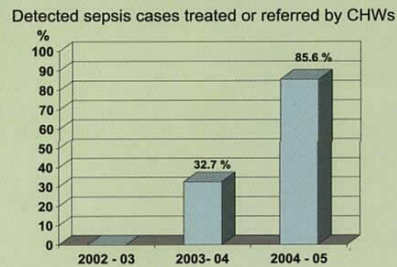
Feasibility



Behavior of mothers



Community health workers' ability to manage neonatal infections.



Preliminary analysis indicates significant reduction in the NMR as compared to the baseline years.

The key factors in implementation:

- 1) Leadership of NGOs
- 2) Cooperation of community and TBAs
- 2) Selection of proper woman from the community to become a CHW
- 3) Training: the methods, materials, quality and practice in field.
- 4) Supportive supervision
- 5) Quality of care, including effective management of sick neonates at home
- 6) Performance based remuneration to the CHWs
- 7) Management Information System (MIS)

How SEARCH can help to provide 'Home-based newborn care' ?

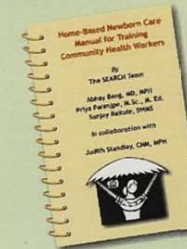
A) Planning

- Introduction workshop.
- Field visit to the demonstration sites.
- How to plan home based newborn care? : A Note.



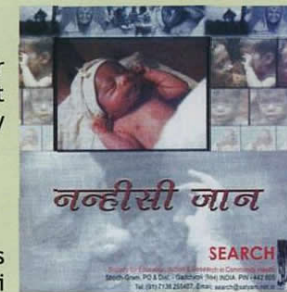
B) Training

1. Community health worker's training manual (English, Hindi, Marathi).
2. Training manual for the training of traditional birth attendants.
3. Training manual, for training of the trainers (Under preparation)



C) Health education material

1. Film - A 50 minute film for education of pregnant mothers and their family members.
Marathi (*Tanhula*)
Hindi (*Nanhisi Jaan*)
2. Flip chart - The flip chart is in English, Hindi and Marathi with 33 coloured picture cards and relevant messages.



D) Mother and Newborn record and forms

E) Management Information System



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