



PROMOTING HEALTH IN INDIA

NIPI Newsletter (April-June 2021)



COVID-19 Response and RMNCHA+N Services: Support Uninterrupted!



India's second wave of COVID-19 tested the country on multiple fronts. The stretched capacity of health systems from the first wave was further stressed. Yet, many new challenges were tackled and lessons gained to prepare and respond more effectively to future threats, if any.

The Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has been supporting the national and state governments in responding to the pandemic. Since the first wave, this support increased as well as expanded during the second wave. NIPI continues to support training of health care providers in COVID-19 management and in assessing preparedness of COVID-19 facilities. During the second wave this support further expanded to include strategic support on COVID-19 vaccination drives, session monitoring, tracking and analysing progress & coverage and supporting state AEFI committees. NIPI is also providing technical assistance to the states in preparing for the anticipated 3rd wave of COVID-19 by shaping a comprehensive containment strategy and action plan.

NIPI, as a technical partner, continues to support Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the state government of Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and UT of Jammu & Kashmir in ensuring that provision of RMNCHA+N services is maintained and delivered with quality even during these challenging times. During the 2nd wave, NIPI supported the state governments in assessment & certification of facilities under LaQshya program, assessments and reviews leading to improvement in HBYC, ETAT & FPC services. Solutions leveraging technology are being presented to strengthen delivery of health care services right at the community level.

The subsequent pages of this newsletter describe the details of NIPI supported COVID-19 and RMNCHA+N activities in the quarter April- June 2021.

Glimpse of our key activities from April - June 2021



Rational Use of Oxygen at COVID-19 Facilities in Jammu & Kashmir

The second wave of COVID-19 put our health systems to a critical test in terms of resource availability, clinical management and impact on lives and livelihood. The impact was compounded due to sudden and huge spike in cases that overwhelmed the health care and supply systems, leading to a spell of shortage of life saving resources including oxygen.

To address this crisis and promote judicious and optimal use of oxygen, Government of Jammu & Kashmir organized four virtual trainings wherein team NIPI played a key role in facilitating these trainings in coordination with National Health Mission, National resource persons, Divisional Commissioners offices and nodal officers along with bio-mechanical engineers and oxygen plant operators from all the COVID-19 health facilities (tertiary, secondary and primary care).

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NIPI Team received a “Letter of Appreciation” by Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir for successful implementation of the large-scale trainings for COVID-19 health facilities.





Innovative Approaches for Mitigating COVID-19 Risk in Jammu and Kashmir

With a surge in COVID-19 cases and its gradual ingress in peri-urban, rural and tribal areas, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir adopted an innovative approach to manage and contain the pandemic in these areas. The government has established a 5-bedded COVID Care Centre (CCC) in every panchayat with one oxygen supported bed (equipped with an oxygen concentrator) and other basic facilities in collaboration with the local Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs), Departments of Health & Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education. The centers are equipped with necessary medical kits and mapped to nearby health facilities with provision of medical consultation, testing, ambulance services and isolation of positive patients.

NIPI team supported in drafting the training material along with videos for enhanced understanding among all participating health care workers including frontline workers of other departments. The Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir organized in person Training of Trainers (ToT) in Kashmir Division. Two teams of experts were constituted to conduct ToTs at district level, covering two districts per day (10 districts of Kashmir division) with all related topics and a total 250 trainers were trained.

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NIPI team supported in drafting the training material along with videos for enhanced understanding among all participating health care workers, including frontline workers of other departments. Over 250 trainers were trained.



OUR WORK IN THE STATE



Assessing status of 500 bedded COVID-19 hospital coming up at Khonmoh, Srinagar with support of DRDO along with Directorate of Health Services



Assessing COVID-19 care facilities and Oxygen generation plant in districts Ganderbal and Bandipora with Directorate of Health and NHM

Monitoring Review meeting at Aspirational District- Kupwara with Director Health Services Kashmir and Deputy Commissioner Kupwara



Support in monitoring of vaccination session sites





NIPI supporting Directorate of Health and NHM J&K in establishing COVID-19 triage stations and streamlining oxygen supply at CHC Sopore



Facilitated online training workshops on efficient and optimal usage of oxygen across various COVID-19 dedicated facilities about 500 staff trained

Assessing COVID-19 care facilities and Oxygen generation plant in district Ganderbal and Bandipora with Directorate of Health and NHM





Technical support and facilitation to NHM for successful planning and implementation of the 5 days virtual training of MLHPs, health staff and other supporting staff for management of COVID-19 patients at 5 bedded COVID-19 care centres established in village Panchyats

TEAM NIPI IS ENGAGED IN FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

Support to vaccination drive by planning and preparing a road map for target beneficiaries for vaccination monitoring

Facilitate training on ICU management of COVID-19 patients in both Jammu & Kashmir division

Support the NHM in COVID-19 data analysis related to daily COVID-19 status and vaccination status in the UT

Regular updates to UT on COVID-19 dashboard prepared by NIPI.



Building a Resilient COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy in Bihar

Vaccination is proving to be a promising defence against this pandemic. However, vaccinating more than 12 crore, the population of Bihar, in a timely manner is a monumental task. The first wave of pandemic in India largely affected the elderly, while the lower age group (adult population) bore the brunt of the second wave of infection. This shift has prompted a change in the strategy to vaccinate all adults older than 18 years.

NIPI is supporting the state in setting up of additional vaccination centres in-and-around the city of Patna to accelerate vaccination among the eligible population. NIPI's support more specifically consists of:

- Identifying suitable locations which can be operationalized as vaccination centres,
- Assisting vaccinators and the state in registration of eligible beneficiaries.

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NIPI is supporting the state in setting up of additional vaccination centres in-and-around the city of Patna to accelerate vaccination among the eligible population.



Monitoring visits at a vaccination center



A Vaccination Center in Patna



Enhancing COVID-19 Care with Updated Treatment Protocols

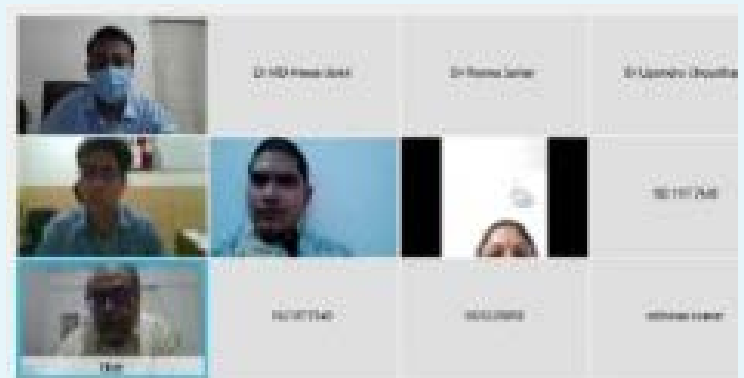
In the wake of increasing COVID-19 cases in India across all the states, the importance of adhering to the recommended treatment protocols was well-understood by health strategists in Bihar.

The aim of the state government is to ensure that all providers engaged in COVID care are abreast with updated disease evidence and evolving treatment protocols to ensure delivery of most scientific and effective care. Therefore, a state-wide virtual training program on COVID-19 treatment protocols was organized with support from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi.

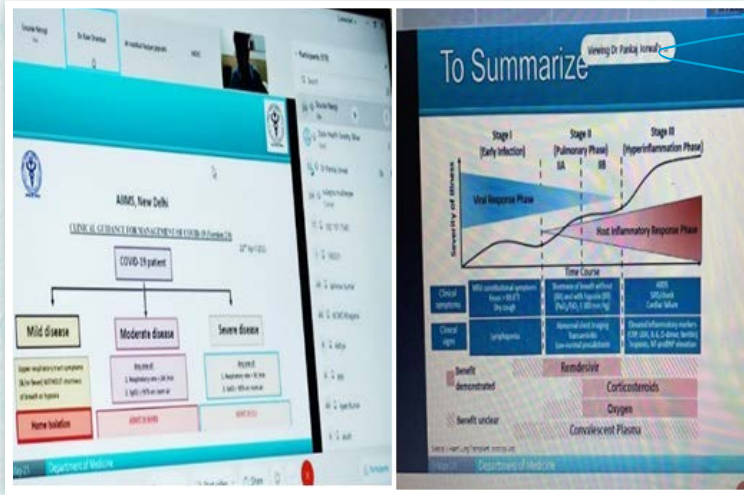
NIPI Bihar state team coordinated with the trainers and trainees from various facilities through the virtual platform and as the primary task force, the team moderated and supported the trainers in each training session.

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NIPI facilitated a state-wide virtual training on COVID-19 treatment protocols with support from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi.

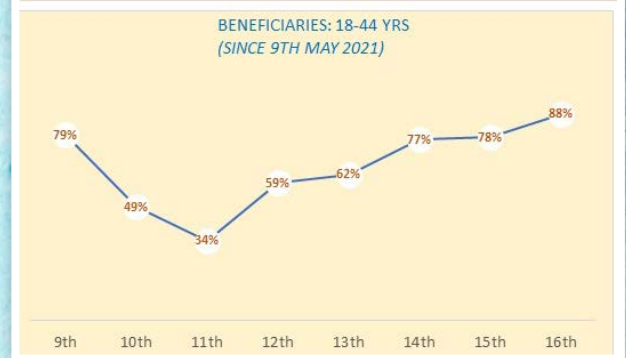
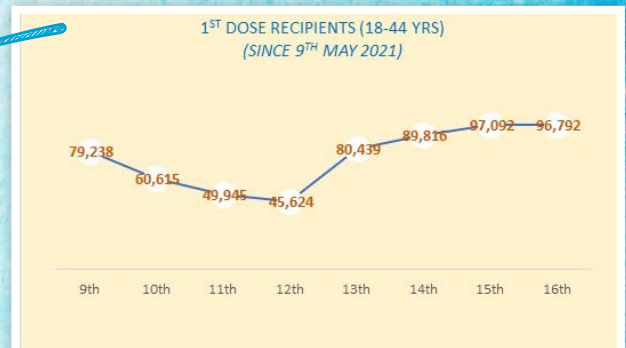


OUR WORK IN THE STATE



Enhancing COVID-19 care with Updated Treatment Protocols. NIPI organizes 4 webinars in collaboration with state health society and all India Institute of Medical Sciences Delhi, 650 doctors and paramedical trained

NIPI is supporting in planning, setting up of additional vaccination sites, operationalization of vaccination centres, assigning vaccinators, supporting in registration of eligible beneficiaries and monitoring



Preparedness assessments for anticipated third wave

- Supporting State Health Society in developing state preparedness plan for pediatric age group for the anticipated 3rd Wave
- District Action plan for pediatric age group being approved by state





Strengthening Newborn Survival in Odisha

Newborn Stabilization Units (NBSU) are a vital component of facility-based newborn care which play a key role in stabilizing the sick and small newborns. NBSUs have been operational under Directorate of Family Welfare/NHM for nearly a decade and, at present 46 NBSUs, at the level of SDH and CHC and spread across 30 districts, are functional in the state of Odisha. To assess performance of these NBSUs, the state is conducting periodic reviews under the leadership of Family Welfare Directorate and NHM. Five poor performing NBSUs were identified during such review meetings based on admissions which remain consistently low, namely: CHC Kesinga, SDH Kuchinda, CHC Muniguda, SDH Talcher, and SDH Hindol. These identified NBSUs require necessary support on a priority basis to improve their performance.

Norway India partnership Initiative (NIPI) has been providing the necessary technical support in improving performance and quality of services at the above five consistently poor performing NBSUs. Team NIPI conducted rapid assessments focusing on infrastructure, HR, admissions profile, discharge, training and availability of logistics & equipment in these NBSUs from October to December 2020 NIPI team. The assessment findings were shared with state and respective districts authorities for necessary action.

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NIPI has been providing required technical support in improving performance and quality of services of five consistently poor performing NBSUs in the state of Odisha.





NIPI Supports State-wide COVID-19 Integrated Campaign in Odisha

The state of Odisha launched a three-month long, 24th May 2021 to 23rd Aug 2021, state-wide innovative campaign to contain COVID-19 morbidity and mortality by identifying vulnerable population with co-morbidities, screening suspected cases with symptoms and to promote COVID appropriate behavior amongst the masses.

NIPI as a trusted and valued technical partner of H&FW Department, Govt of Odisha is providing strategic support in COVID-19 related containment and management activities in the state.

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NIPI team visited a total of 145 households in 22 villages in the four districts wherein 13 active COVID 19 cases and 26 persons with comorbidities (hypertension & diabetes) were identified.





Digital Decisioning for Primary Health Care- e-DSS (Decision Support System)

In an effort to aid Community Health Officer (CHOs) in complex decision making, eDSS aims to build and further their capacity through the patient management process at community level. With technical support by NIPI, the initiative is being piloted in the district of Mayurbhanj through the district innovation fund.

To assist the CHOs in effective management of cases along the continuum of care, early diagnosis, treatment and referral, an e-DSS (Decision Support System) has been approved by NHM, H&FW Department Government of Odisha.

[READ MORE](#)

NIPI team is supporting Community Health Officer (CHOs) in complex decision making through eDSS by enhancing their capacity through the patient management process at the community level.



OUR WORK IN THE STATE

- Planning and preparedness for anticipated COVID-19 3rd wave with state technical committee at Bhubaneswar
- NIPI shared facility assessment and action plan tool



Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination campaign with additional director SIHFW

Supporting NHM Odisha in COVID-19 integrated campaign in district Bolangir, Koraput, Gajapati and Malkanagiri for screening of symptomatic cases, cases with comorbidities, sensitization on CAB and importance of vaccination. Team NIPI visited 3 district 16 villages in last 7 days and interacted with ASHA, AWW and beneficiaries.





Strengthening 'Home Based Care of Young Child' Program' in Madhya Pradesh

Home Based Care of Young Child (HBYC) Program began in eight aspirational districts of Madhya Pradesh in 2019. A year later, the Program was scaled-up in 14 additional districts, including 10 high priority districts of which four are being actively supported by Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI).

A virtual orientation was organised to review the HBYC Program implementation in the districts of Khandwa, Badwani, Jhabua, Alirajpur, Mandla, Dindori, Rajgarh, Vidisha, Guna, Betul, Hosangabad, Raisen, Narsinghpur, Sheopur, Singrauli, Chatarpur, Damoh, Sidhi, Satna, Tikamgarh, Panna and Ashok Nagar from 20th - 23rd April 2021. Team NIPI engaged in presenting the key components of HBYC Program and highlighted the implementation steps with key deliverables in the review.

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NIPI team members presented an overview and key components of HBYC programme and highlighted the important implementation steps in the virtual orientation spread over 3 days.





Measuring and Sharing Progress: HBYC Periodic Assessments in Madhya Pradesh

Since 2019, the state of Madhya Pradesh is implementing the HBYC programme in all eight aspirational districts. The Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) is providing Technical Assistance (TA) in the state. The findings of the assessment were shared through a virtual dissemination workshop organized at the state level under the chairmanship of Deputy Director ASHA on June 29, 2021.

During the workshop, district specific factsheets designed by NIPI for the eight aspirational districts were also released.

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NHM, M.P. acknowledged the technical support provided by NIPI during the HBYC assessment and compilation of the findings on key HBYC indicators concerned with health, nutrition, child development and WASH.





Change Agent of HBNC+ Program

Piloted by State Government with technical support from NIPI in four districts of Madhya Pradesh in 2013, nearly 6,500 ASHAs, including Gomati, have been trained under HBNC+ Program. Mrs. Gomati has been working as ASHA since 2007 and is one amongst many change agents of HBNC+ program.

The HBNC+ program is now scaled-up by the Government of India as HBYC program with inclusion of an additional visit at the age of 15 months. Gomati has been conducting visits in her village to monitor eligible children at 3, 6, 9, 12 and 15 months of age. Pictures of her carrying out work in the field have been printed on the cover of HBYC module as token of appreciation and recognition for her good work. She feels proud to be a part of the HBYC program and responsibly continues the very work which has brought her recognition in her village as well as in the block. Seeing the encouraging results of the program, Government of Madhya Pradesh has scaled and implemented the HBYC program in all 51 districts of the state under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative and aims to its rollout, following completion of trainings, by 2023.

READ MORE

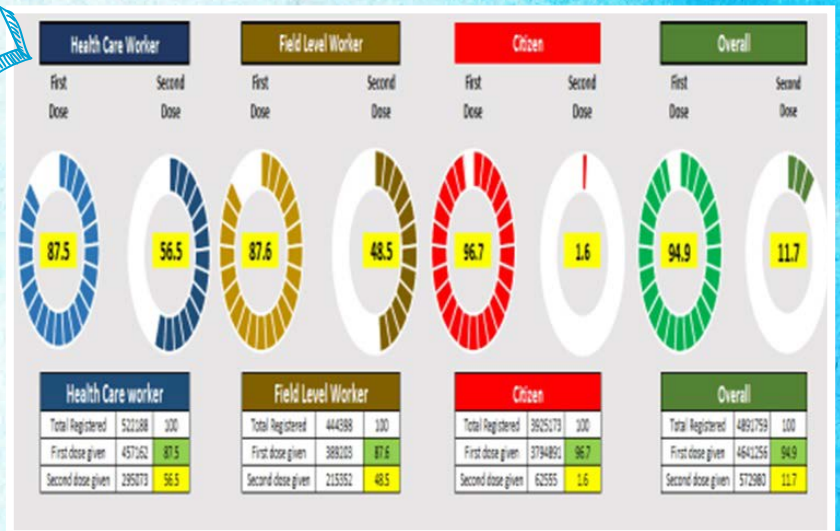
Gomati feels proud to be a part of the HBNC+ program and she continues the work which has brought her recognition in the village as well as in the block.



ASHA Gomati- with a trainer at HBYC training at District Narsingpur

OUR WORK IN THE STATE

- Monitoring of Vaccination drive using dashboard developed by NIPI,
- Monitoring and tracking Quality & Equity, planning, status availability of vaccines and vaccine distribution.



Post COVID-19 vaccination AEFI state AEFI committee review meeting Bhopal



TEAM NIPI IS ENGAGED IN FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

Daily updates on vaccination performance dashboard

Support to state NHM in planning of other COVID-19 related activities as a member of state task committee

Support to data collection and analysis in preparing daily state COVID-19 bulletin

Troubleshooting CoWIN portal related issues.



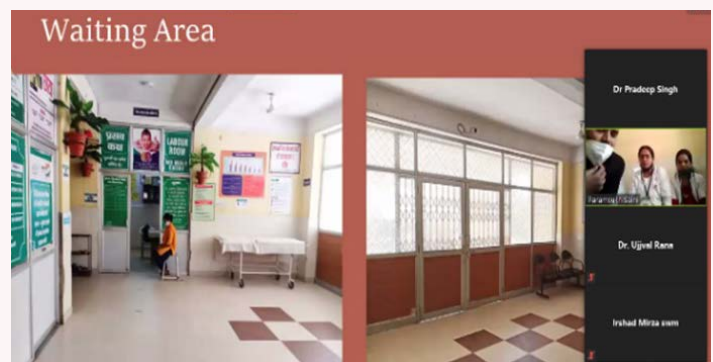
Achieving Quality of Care with LaQshya Certification in Rajasthan

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India launched the quality certification program- LaQshya in 2017 with an aim to reduce maternal and new born morbidity and mortality by improving quality of care around birth.

NIPI is providing technical and programmatic support to the state and selected facilities in the process of LaQshya certification. The team plays a major role in the implementation of LaQshya program at state level while supporting and mentoring facilities in both internal & external assessments. NIPI team also supported the state level LaQshya Assessment of district hospital Karauli and Jaisalmer in July and November 2020 respectively as part of the state assessment.

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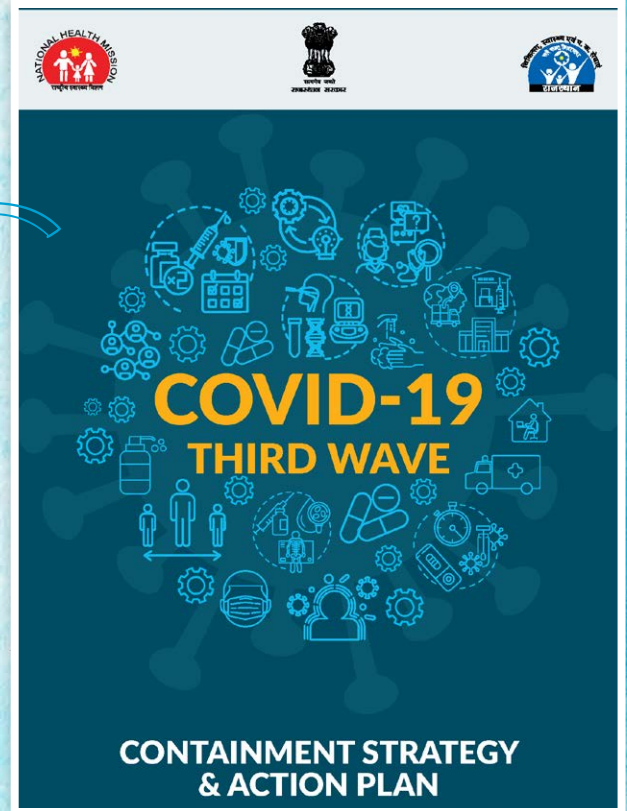
NIPI is providing technical and programmatic support to the state and selected facilities in the process of LaQshya certification.



LaQshya Mock drill at Labour Room, DH Jaisalmer

OUR WORK IN THE STATE

Developed Strategy Document for Containment & Management of potential 3rd Wave of COVID-19



Action plan meeting for anticipated 3rd. wave in Rajasthan

TEAM NIPI IS ENGAGED IN FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES

Support to NHM on getting feedback of 108 ambulance services for COVID-19 cases regularly to improve their service

Support in planning COVID-19 related activities as state TASK force member.



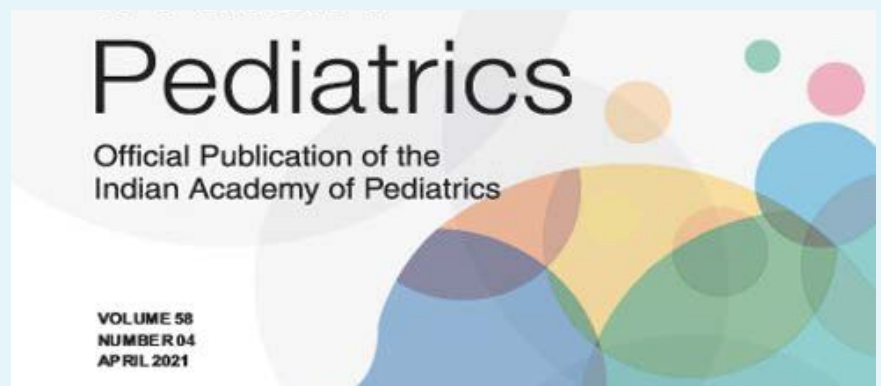
Peer Recognition of NIPI Supported Interventions by Journal of Indian Paediatrics

The April, 2021 edition of Journal of Indian Paediatrics, a journal of international repute indexed in PubMed, published a special issue containing five articles on NIPI supported interventions.

Each of the five research article focuses on a single NIPI supported intervention-HBNC+, SNCU+, ETAT, FPC and SQCI, have been scaled up across the country by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. These articles document and share findings from implementation of each of the abovementioned interventions in 13 districts of four states of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan.

[READ MORE](#)

NIPI teams documented the findings from each of the interventions in 13 districts of four states of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan.





Policy to Field: Preparing Health Systems for the Anticipated 3rd COVID-19 Wave

India witnessed a huge surge in cases during the second wave, putting an unexpected acute demand on the health systems to work beyond their capacity to minimize its impact. Vaccination against COVID-19 began in phases across the country, beginning first with those above 60 years and gradually opening up for all above 18 years of age. Staging of vaccination drives in this staggered manner was based on the risk stratification approach.

Norway India partnership Initiative (NIPI) has developed the “COVID-19 District Action Plan” for pediatric age group (0-18 years) to enable extensive planning from policy to field level which can lead to better health system preparedness and mount an effective response to this anticipated next wave. This document aims to provide guidance to the programme managers and district administration for specific actions related to COVID-19 preparedness for 0-18 year age group taking into consideration the strength of existing health systems.

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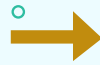
NIPI has developed the “COVID-19 District Action Plan” for pediatric age group (0-18 years) to enable extensive planning from policy to field level.



Meeting with ED, AED, SPO Child Health and other stake holders on District Action Plan

Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 Across States and UTs

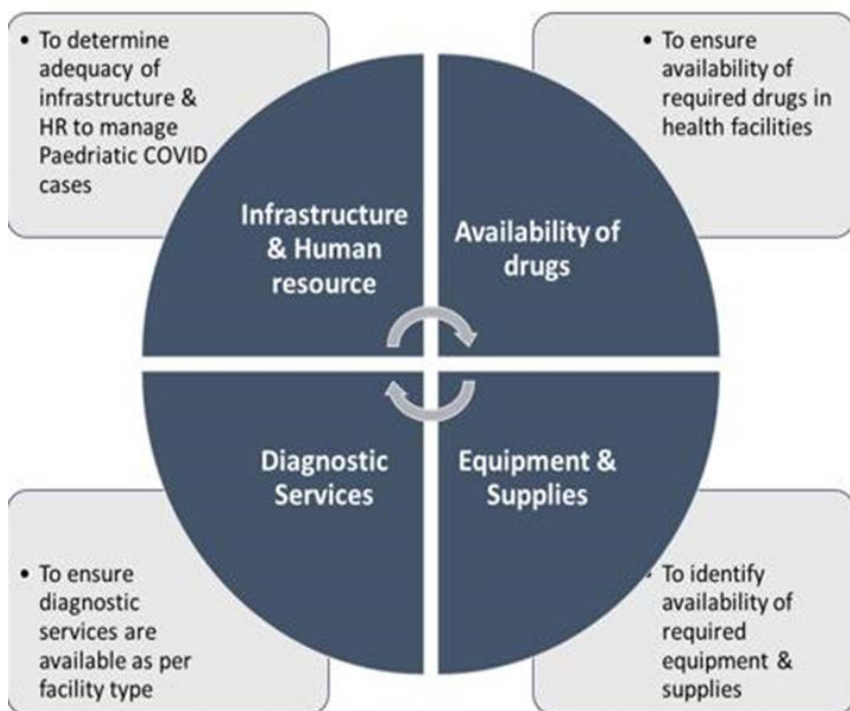
Developed COVID-19 District Action Plan" (Age Group 0 – 18 Years)



Developed District Assessment tool for preparedness of COVID-19 3rd Wave



Pediatric COVID-19 preparedness Dashboard

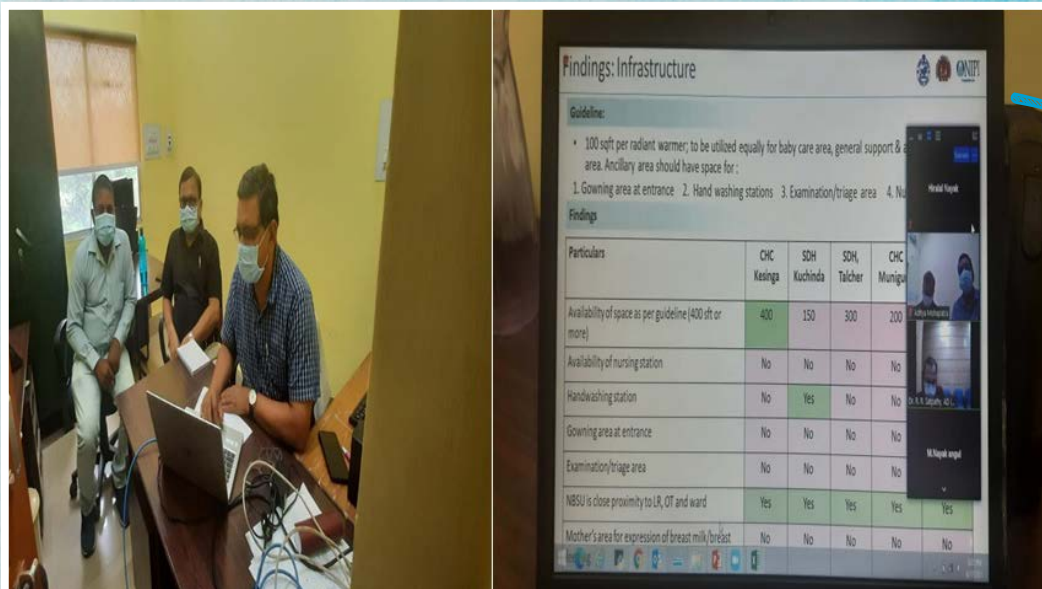


Paediatric COVID-19 Preparedness Dashboard
Madhya Pradesh | District: Chhattarpur

Infrastructure							
% of facilities having dedicated area to treating COVID cases	% of paediatric bed with oxygen suport	% of intensive care paediatric beds-PICU	% of intensive care paediatric beds-NICU/SNICU	% of intensive care paediatric beds-NBSU			
33%	19%	6%	8%	4%			
13%	33%	43%	54%				
% of facility having ambulance services	% of District/MCH having designated emergency area for triage and treatment	% of facilities availability of required COVID management protocols	% of isolation beds with oxygen facility				
Human Resources and Trainings							
% of health functionary (ANM/ASHA/OHO) received training on COVID management protocol	% of facilities having adequate HR for paediatric oxygen beds per shift	% of OHI and MOH having adequate HR for intensive care per shift	% of HWC with availability of OHO	% of PHC availability of MO			
52%	40%	87%	58%	89%			
HR							
	Paediatric Ians	Medical Officers	Staff nurses	Lab Technician	OHOs/ MLHP	ANMs	ASHAs
FBMC	7%	44%	17%		36%	69%	
FBMNCI	82%	11%	3%		75%	61%	
NSSK	42%	87%	43%		38%	95%	
ETAT	41%	53%	11%				
NALS & PAALS	54%	88%					
Infection prevention for COVID-19 training	30%	51%	24%		81%	3%	
Nutrition Management training	12%	98%	64%		83%	18%	
Ventilator training			97%				
COVID management protocol at community level					73%	53%	42%
Home isolation guideline for COVID					34%	83%	83%
FBMNCI training					22%	53%	
SAANS training					72%	22%	
Sample collection, packaging, storage and transportation			63%	47%	37%	50%	

PHOTO GALLERY

NHM J&K and NIPI team jointly conducted Supportive Supervision Visit and Monitoring of various MCH programs/ schemes being implemented under NHK at DH Kulgam



Findings: Infrastructure

Guideline:

- 100 sqft per radiant warmer; to be utilized equally for baby care area, general support & area. Ancillary area should have space for:
 - Gowning area at entrance
 - Hand washing stations
 - Examination/riage area
 - Nursing area

Findings

Particulars	CHC Kesinga	SDH Kuchinda	SDH Talcher	CHC Munigat
Availability of space as per guideline (400 sqft or more)	400	150	300	200
Availability of nursing station	No	No	No	No
Handwashing station	No	Yes	No	No
Gowning area at entrance	No	No	No	No
Examination/riage area	No	No	No	No
NBSU is close proximity to LR, OT and ward	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mother's area for expression of breast milk/breast	No	No	No	No

NIPI facilitated the orientation of Medical officers & staff nurses of 5 NBSUs supported by NIPI in Odisha. Government officials took the review based on NIPI's assessment findings

NIPI as a technical partner participated in Executive committee meeting of NHM J&K under the chairmanship of Financial Commissioner Health and Medical Education to discuss the approval under Program Implementation Plan (PIP) 2021-22

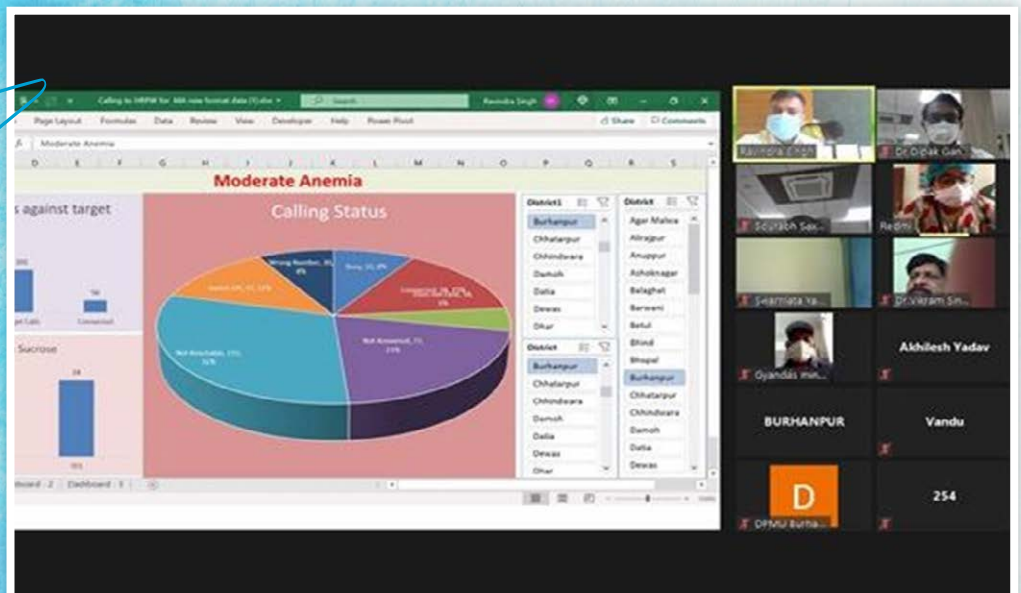


Supportive Supervision visit of PHC Kunzer J&K to observe smooth delivery of maternal and child health services & quality of essential documentation



Demonstration of prototype of decision support system (DSS) developed by NIPI to officials Bihar health department and other development partners

NIPI team facilitated ICCC review meeting with DLOs in Madhya Pradesh for tracking and ensuring delivery of quality key RMNCH services during pandemic





Promoting Health in India



A health initiative between Government of India and Government of Norway, the Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) aims to innovate and scale up quality continuum of care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in India

CONTACT US

Visit <https://www.nipi-cure.org/> for more updates

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