



Project SCREEN Assam

A GE Healthcare-Samhita and
PPHF collaboration

Third Quarter | October - December, 2022

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Project overview

As per WHO, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) kill 41 million people each year, equivalent to 74% of all deaths globally. India is the major contributor to the global burden of NCDs with approx. 5.9 million people are dying every year from NCDs, meaning a quarter of Indians are at risk of dying prematurely from a NCD before the age of 70 years. To address this, People to People Health Foundation (PPHF) has been working with the government and other key stakeholders to strengthen the NCD service delivery at the level of primary health centers (PHCs) in select districts of Assam. PPHF is working on an integrated approach for prevention, early detection, and the capacity building of NCDs. The present project works in partnership with the state Government of Assam, GE Healthcare and Samhita to strengthen the implementation of population-based screening (PBS) for NCDs. The goal of the program is to meet primary health care needs of the underprivileged population in the PHC area.

Target beneficiaries:

Community members above the age of 30 years, and health professionals

Objectives:

1. Increase public awareness on NCDs through health education and promotion of critical health issues in the community
2. Strengthen the implementation of population-based screening to provide timely care and management support
3. Upskilling the PHC health team to deliver essential NCD service.

Intervention site:

Project site I: Sualkuchi Block in Kamrup Rural District

Project site II: Barpeta Roadblock in Barpeta District

Project site III: Pohumora SC, Rangachiahi SC and Ratanpur Miri MPHC in Majuli District



Key Highlights of the Third Quarter

- Training and orientation of 15 Medical officers on ECG
- 77 Screening Camps organised
- Digitalisation of 8500 patient records
- Community Awareness through 7 Street plays
- Celebration of World Diabetes Day on 14th Nov 22
- Initiation of activities in Majuli from Dec 22 post permission from Govt.

Major Activities

Training and orientation of Medical Officers on ECG Training

Need: To upskill the ECG basics and reading skills among medical officers for the National Program for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke (NPCDCS) program in Barpeta PHC

Specific Activity in this quarter: The ECG training was conducted on an online platform by an ECG training academy named Dr. Sajjan's Academy. At the end of the course, the doctors received certificate of completion.

Process Followed: The course is a pre-recorded 3-day course with self-assessment tests and study material which can be completed by the doctors within the duration of 7 days to 3 months. The study material can be accessed anytime for one year by the MO after training completion..

The training included topics like:

- Anatomy of the Heart and thorax
- Burden of cardiac health problems
- ECG procedure and Clinical Examination
- Equipment required for ECG
- Reading and evaluation of ECG
- Detection of complications

Outcome: 15 medical officers from enrolled and trained on ECG basics at Barpeta PHC.

Conduction of Population Based Screening Camps

Need: To strengthen the population-based screening and overcome community hesitancy for screening either due to inaccessibility to the nearest health facility or lack of awareness

Specific Activity in this quarter: PPHF reached out to people by arranging outreach camps. 77 population-based screening camps were organized where the participants were screened for diabetes, hypertension and cancer (oral, breast and cervical)

Process Followed:

- First Quarter: April to June: Total 7 camps Conducted
- Second Quarter: July to September: Total 22 Camps Conducted
- Third Quarter: October to December: 77 Camps Conducted

Outcome: 77 camps were conducted and 2057 people were screened, including first camp in Majuli on 31st Dec 22

Total screened		Total suspected		Total referred	
Hypertension	2057	Hypertension	434	Hypertension	76
Diabetes	2057	Diabetes	279	Diabetes	
Oral cancer	255	Oral cancer	0	Oral cancer	0
Breast Cancer	51	Breast Cancer	0	Breast Cancer	0
Cervical Cancer	0	Cervical Cancer	0	Cervical Cancer	0

Digitalisation of NCD records

Need: All patient data must be converted into electronic format for record maintenance, regular follow up and referral. All data of NCD registers are being digitalised to electronic format for easy access and keeping a track of all that needs to be followed up at regular intervals. The aim of this record was to assist the CHO, ANM and ASHA to keep a track of an individual patient's screening and follow-up status. This helps in completing the entire loop of NCD management in a patient.

Specific Activity in this quarter: Digitalisation was done for record maintenance, regular follow up and referral.

Digitalisation of records		
District	Target	Achieved till Q3
Barpeta	6000	3500
Sualkuchi	9000	5000

The people for Barpeta Road data digitalisation got enrolled in this quarter and the digitalization process started.

Process Followed: 8500 patient data was digitalized into a prepared format that included individual patient records like name and age of the patient, address, contact, occupation, nearest subcentre and the ASHA responsible

Outcome: The CHO and ANMs are now able to map all the people screened in their designated population. Also, they know the

ASHA who is related to a particular patient and can intimate her about the patient whenever it is time for follow-up or referral.

Community Awareness through Street plays

Need: Street play is an effective method of creating awareness among the community about NCDs

Specific Activity in this quarter: Street plays were organised in public gatherings to create awareness about the importance of screening for NCDs. The importance of prompt referral and role of public in taking care of their own health was emphasized.

Process Followed: The script was prepared with a focus on NCDs (diabetes, hypertension & its complication). The main motive was to let people know about the importance of screening and frequent check-ups at their nearest health center. Along with the Street act IEC materials were distributed among the spectators and were encouraged to visit their nearest subcentre for blood pressure and diabetes screening

Outcome: 7 street plays were conducted across Sualkuchi and Barpeta blocks and about 800 people were reached. People got sensitized about the weekly NCD screening days (Tuesday and Friday) at the subcentres. The printed IEC material worked as a reminder to visit the subcentres. There was an increase in the number of people visiting the subcentres for screening.

World Diabetes Day celebrations

Need: Awareness program on diabetes was conducted to increase awareness and provide access to diabetes education for people

Specific Activity in this quarter: Street plays were organised in public gatherings to create awareness about the importance of screening for NCDs. The importance of prompt referral and the role of the public in taking care of their own health was emphasized.

Process Followed: The District NCD Cell, with the help of PPHF organized World Diabetes Day awareness camp at GandiPara SC under

Barpeta Road and at Sualkuchi BPHC, Kamrup Rural on 14th of November 2022. The team included a Yoga instructor, medical officer, staff nurse and community mobilizers from BPHC. Medical officer delivered a talk about diabetes, its complication and the importance of a healthy lifestyle which was followed by a yoga session. People aged 30 years and above were referred for regular screening at the PHC of both districts.

Outcome: 180 individuals took part in health awareness session, 50 people attended yoga session and 180 people were screened.



Yoga Session on 14th November , World Diabetes Day at Sualkuchi , Kamrup Rural

Field Testimonials

“ I was less worried about my health as I was not having any symptoms however the ASHA workers and mobilizers motivated me to visit the PHC and get screened. I was diagnosed with high level of Sugar which made me conscious about my health and diet. I am so thankful that such screening is done for our benefit and overall wellbeing. I advise people in my circle to get screened immediately even though they might not have any problem.

Basirun Nessa, 47years
Housewife
Barpeta, Assam

“ I am a housewife and due to household chores, I start my day early in the morning. The work keeps me busy till late at night. I never thought that I will have any condition as I am physically active throughout the day. ASHA didi shared the importance of Screening and motivated me to visit the PHC. To my surprise, I was diagnosed with high BP. Now I take the suggestions of health service providers seriously and follow medication and diet

ikram Nirubala Das, 40 years,
Occupation: CHO
Barpeta, Assam

Learnings and Challenges

Challenges

Reluctancy in visiting Sub Centre: In Sualkuchi and Barpeta we have observed that local people usually visit Private Health care rather than the govt health facility. Reluctance is seen while visiting the health centers as a preventive measure for NCD screenings.

How we address challenges and our learnings

- ✧ Conducting door-to-door visits and continuous reminders by ASHA workers played a vital role in increasing the Sub Centres OPD.
- ✧ PPHF has focused not only on women but also adolescent girls and men. The intervention includes street plays, distribution of IEC material and community mobilisation drive.

Trepidation in conducting Cancer screening: Reduced awareness in community and lack of trained Health Service providers at Sub Centre Level are few barriers for Cancer Screening.

We noticed that in Sualkuchi after receiving training from BBCL, the respective CHOs could carry out the Breast and Oral Cancer screening confidently. So, upskilling of health care workers along with high intensity community awareness will increase the cervical cancer screening.

Plan for the next quarter

1. Achieving target of completion of 150 NCD screening camps
2. Conduction of remaining Street Plays
3. Completion of digitalisation of all records
4. Focus on Common cancer screening training and screening camps in Majuli
5. Completion of all the training in Kamrup Rural, Barpeta and Majuli
6. Enrolment of all the medical officers in ECG Training



NCD Screening at MN Das, Subcentre Under Sualkuchi BPHC, Kamrup rural. Assam
Dated :25-11-2022



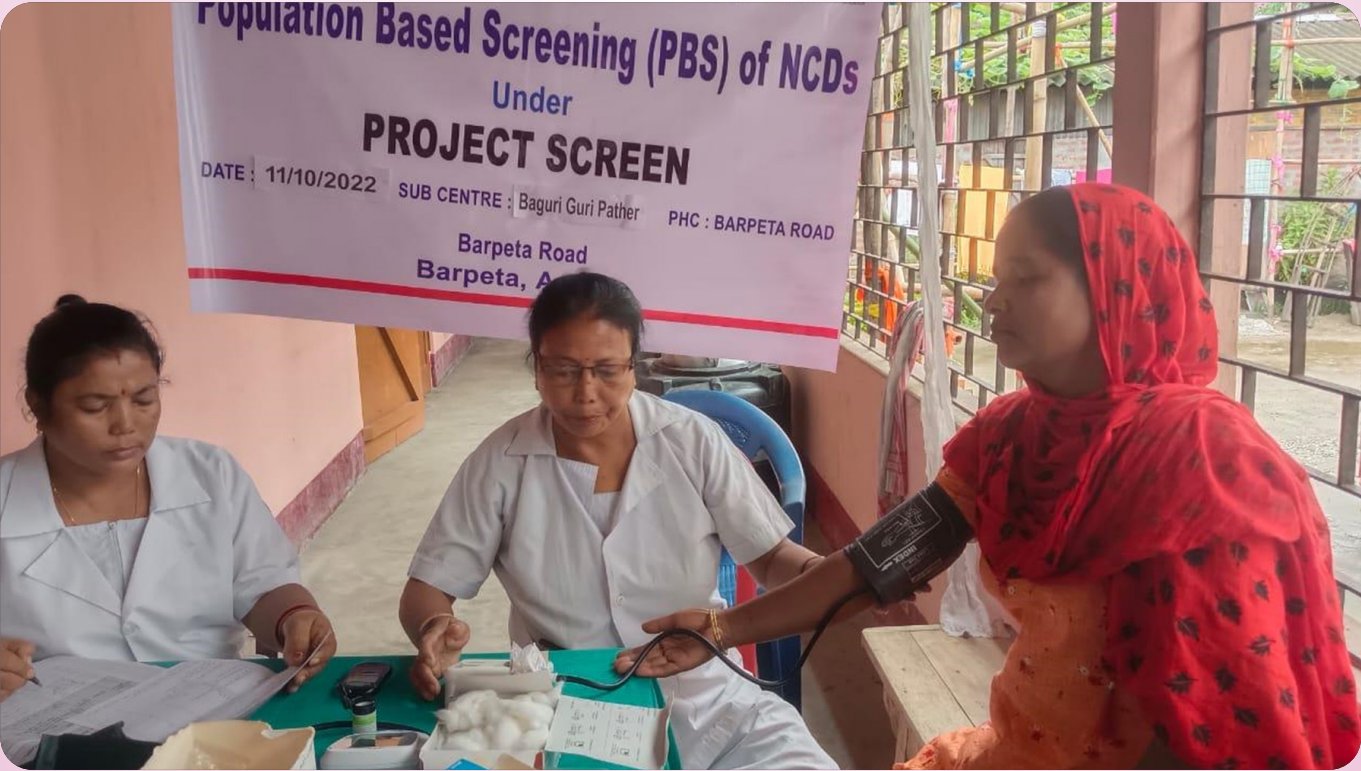
NCD SCREENING at Gandgmow SC, under Sualkuchi BPHC, Kamrup Rural.
Dated 22:11:2022



NCD Screening Camp at Moutupuri, SC, Under Barpeta Road, BPHC, Assam
Dated:29.11.2022



NCD Screening Camp at Phuloni Sub Centre under Kamlabari PHC, Majuli, Assam
Dated :31st Dec 2022



NCD Screening at Baguri Guri Pathar SC, Under Barpeta Road BPHC, Assam
Dated: 11:10:2022



Awareness Program on Diabetes, 14th November 2022 World Diabetes Day. Barpeta Road. Assam



Street play on NCD Awareness , organized at Barpeta

About People to People Health Foundation (PPHF)

We are a global health non-profit organization working towards transforming lives for improved health and wellbeing through locally-driven solutions. We have worked in more than 20 states of India with an aim to build the skills of health care providers, strengthen management capacity and help create sustainable systems to improve access to quality health services.

We work closely with communities and key actors on sustainable solutions for public health challenges:

- 1) Non-Communicable Diseases
- 2) Women, Adolescent and Child health
- 3) Nutrition
- 4) Infectious diseases
- 5) Environmental Health
- 6) Emergency Health and Disaster Response

We focus on building public health capacity and community actions for better health outcomes. We work collaboratively with stakeholders, leveraging partnerships and influencing policies and practices. Drawing on our experiences and recognizing the unique needs of each region in India, We work in partnership with key stakeholders to design and deliver targeted responses.

Contributor:

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@ PPHF India January 2023

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