

HEALTH AS HUMAN RIGHT: TOWARDS IMPROVING QUALITY OF CARE

Co-organised by COPASAH and Innovative Alliance for Public Health (IAPH)

In a collaborative effort in advancing 'Health for All', COPASAH and the Innovative Alliance for Public Health (IAPH), India have collaborated to orient nurses across the capital city of Delhi (India) with a Human Rights perspective. The year long process aims to promote the human rights approach to the health care delivery system through the medium of nurses both working in the private and public sector and will be taken across different regions of the country later on. In addition it aims to identify nurses' roles and challenges to lead the theme Health as a Human Right, so that they can also contribute towards improving quality of health care as well uphold patients' rights. Innovative Alliance for Public Health (IAPH) is a group of volunteer nurses working in the private and public institutions. These cumulative efforts are also a run up to the COPASAH Global Symposium proposed to be held in 2019, and to embed in tone in the larger themes of the Symposium and particularly in the theme of Forging Alliances between the Community and the Health Workforce. IAPH has developed a Training of Trainer (ToT) module to disseminate this approach among the nurses, through a yearlong process. This process also proposes to create a synergy on the Right to Health with different health workers, academicians and nursing students also.

PHASE I- TRAINING OF TRAINERS (ToT) –NURSES UPHOLDING PATIENTS' RIGHTS

April 27, 2018; Venue- Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi, India

Initiating the first phase of the Health as a Human Right towards improving quality of care, the first ToT of nearly 30 nurses including nursing faculty, senior nurses, student nurses from 13 different hospitals and health institutions across Delhi was held on April 27, 2018 at RML hospital in Delhi by IAPH in collaboration with COPASAH. The first phase aims to orient master trainers with the basic concept of Health as a Human Right, who will further train and orient nurses in their respective health institutions and hospitals.

INTRODUCTORY SESSION

Dr. C N Bhargavi, senior nurse at RML hospital and Bhawna Arora, both IAPH members set out the tone for the ToT and outlined that it aimed to explore and deliberate upon the current knowledge and practice of nursing across different hospitals and health institutions and efforts around improving quality of care. This was followed by a round of introductions wherein the practitioners outlined about their area of work and expertise. The COPASAH Secretariat team also apprised the participants about the

SESSION I

UNDERSTANDING HEALTH AS A HUMAN RIGHT TOWARDS IMPROVING QUALITY OF CARE

Facilitated by COPASAH Global Secretariat Coordinator, E. Premdas this session saw deliberations on putting up rights based focus to health and health care. The facilitator contextualized the quality of care, patient's rights and rights of nurses as health workers. It was outlined by him how through rights based perspective nurses can contribute towards improving quality of care as well uphold patients' rights also.



COPASAH Global Secretariat Coordinator, E.Premdas facilitating session on Health as a Human Right

SESSION II

ADOPTING HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE IN IMPROVING PATIENT QUALITY OF CARE

Facilitated by IAPH research coordinator, Santosh Mahindrakar the second session for the day focused on group discussion on different case studies and case vignettes which outlined nurses' experiences as health service providers in different situations. The participants were divided into three groups and the group members discussed the cases and presented different experiences on interface of nurses with patients', health workers rights and patients' rights. They discussed how nurses could take up steps to enhance quality of care and make system responsiveness better.



Group Discussions and Presentations

SESSION III

WAY FORWARD- PLAN OF ACTION FOR NURSES WEEK



The last session for the day saw deliberations on the way forward and plan of action, deriving out from the group discussions. The participants volunteered to take forward the ToT across different hospitals and health institutions in Delhi as a run-up to the nurses' week from May 7-12. Moderated by IAPH research coordinator, Santosh Mahindrakar this session also saw discussions around development of Nurses Charter, for which the participants along with more health workers and nurses will converge on May 18, 2018 also to commemorate the death anniversary of Indian nurse Aruna Shanbaug who was at the centre of attention for a case

on euthanasia after spending 42 years in a vegetative state as a result of sexual assault at workplace.

The sessions for the day ended with a collective reflection for the way forward and a vote of thanks.

Surekha Dhaleta

For COPASAH