

Letter to the Editor

Adarsh primary health care yojana in Rajasthan

Sir,

Primary health care (PHC) center is the first point of contact between community and the Medical Officer at village level. The PHCs have been envisaged to provide an integrated curative and preventive health care to the rural population with emphasis on preventive and promotive aspects of health care. The PHCs are established and maintained by the State Governments under the minimum needs programme or basic minimum services programme. At present, a PHC is manned by a medical officer supported by paramedical and other staff. It acts as a referral unit for 4 to 6 sub centres. It has 6 beds for patients. The activities of PHC involve curative, preventive, promotive and family welfare services.¹ There are 2080 PHCs functioning as on March, 2018 in the Rajasthan.

To strengthen the health services in rural area Rajasthan Government initiated Adarsh PHC yojana. Under Adarsh PHC yojana out of 2080 primary health centers 891 primary health centers developed as Adarsh PHCs in two phases in the year 2016-2018.

In the first phase 295 PHCs, one in each block was selected. After the selection primary health centers gap analysis regarding HR (man power), equipment and availability of medicine and test facility was done and these gaps were filled. On 15th August 2016 respected Chief Minister launched these 295 PHCs as an Adarsh PHCs.

In the second phase 596 PHCs have been developed as Adarsh PHCs in two stages, 286 PHCs in stage 2A and 310 PHCs in stage 2B. After fulfill the gaps 286 PHCs launched on 11 July 2017 and 310 PHCs launched on 7th April 2018.^{2,3}

Table 1: Phase-1 Adarsh PHCs (~295 PHCs launched in 2016).

Indicator	Prior to the program (March 2016)	As on date (March 2018)	% increase
Outpatient visits (OPDs/day)	Mean: 60, Median: 50	Mean: 82, Median: 70	40
Drugs availability	66%	81%	23

Source: Pragati Prativedan 2017-18.

Branding of these PHC has been done, these Adarsh PHCs have been painted in pink colour with red bordering, and staff is wearing pink apron. Name of PHC, time of PHC, logo and information of services being provided at PHC have been painted on external wall of PHC building. These PHCs have been developed as health and wellness centers, services of MO Ayurveda have been made available. Herbal garden with Ayurveda plants such as Tulsi, Alovera have been developed at these Adarsh PHCs. Ayurveda medical officers not only treating patients with their Ayurveda medicine but also conducting morning yoga sessions for enhancing overall well being of community members.

Table 2: Phase-2 Adarsh PHCs (~286 more PHCs launched in 2017).

Indicator	Prior to the program (March 2017)	As on date (March 2018)	% increase
Outpatient visits (OPDs/day)	Mean: 37, Median: 31	Mean: 48, Median: 42	30-35
Drugs availability	61%	71%	16

Source: Pragati Prativedan 2017-18.



Figure 1: Activities of Adarsh PHC.

One medical officer, two GNM and one ANM, one Pharmacist, one lab technician, one lady health visitor, one Ayush doctors, computer operator have been posted

on these Adarsh PHCs. These PHCs are regularly monitored at state and district level on the basis of OPD, delivery by data reported on PCTS software and staff, medicine, test availability by data reported and e-Aushadhi software.

As per PCTS report- phase 1 PHCs shows 40% and phase 2A PHCs shows 35% increase on the outdoor.

There is also increase in medicine availability.

CONCLUSION

Adarsh PHCs yojana initiated on August 15, 2016 have been able to serve its purpose, as there is increase in registration at Outpatient Department, Institutional deliveries has also increased. There is also increase in medicine and test availability.

Mamta Chauhan

State Institute of Health and Family Welfare, Jaipur,
Rajasthan, India

***Correspondence to**

Dr. Mamta Chauhan,
E-mail: chauhandrm@yahoo.com

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