



PRAVARA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (PIMS)

DEEMED UNIVERSITY

**CENTRE FOR SOCIAL MEDICINE (CSM)**

**Certificate Course in Social Health & Development (CSHD)**

July-August 2011

**Report & Reminiscences of the First Batch**



The first batch of one month Certificate Course in Social Health and Development (CSHD) for international students was organized by Centre for Social Medicine (CSM) between 11th July to 14th August 2011. Participating students hail from Oregon and Portland State Universities of USA, Uppsala and Umeo Universities of Sweden. The academic background of participating international students included medical, nursing, public health & psychology.



The course was designed and conducted with major learning objectives that every participating student should (i) acquire clear understanding of the concepts of social health & development, (ii) exposed to ongoing projects, programs & facilities in preventive-curative-rehabilitative services at primary to tertiary level health care settings, (iii) exposed to various determinants of health in rural & urban life. (iii) demonstrated skills on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques.

### **Lecture Series (30 hours)**



An interactive lecture series session (two days in a week) has enriched the students conceptual understanding on various issues related to social health & development in resource poor settings. Faculty of CSM and Medical, Nursing, Physiotherapy Colleges of PIMS University delivered lectures covering various topics like Social & community diagnosis, Health care delivery system in India, Community health nursing in India, Nutrition & child health assessment in India, Role of peripheral health workers in rural health, Role of blind faiths & beliefs & rural health, Community health & development, Concept of healthy settings: healthy villages & health promoting schools, Concept & involvement of NGOs, Environmental health, ICT in rural health.



### **Visits to Rural & Urban Health Centers, Mobile Medical Clinics & Out-reach Camps (45 hours)**



The students visited Rural Health Centers (RHC) at *Rahata, Kolhar, Babhaleshwar, Pathare, Rajur (Tribal) & Shendi (Tribal)* and Urban Health Center (for studying the occupational health of Industrial Workers) at Pravaranagar run by CSM. The students keenly observed and involved in all the functional activities including Women's Health Clinic, Child Health Clinic, General Health Clinic, Laboratory & e-Health (IT) facilities at these health centers.

Two days they accompanied the Mobile Medical Clinic which provides primary health care at the doorstep to 100 remotest villages in the catchment area of the PIMS University and also tribal villages of the area. It was a rewarding experience for the students to observe how a



**JULIA BANCHERO**  
University of Oregon,  
USA

*I owe a huge amount of thanks to the Centre for Social Medicine for organizing such an enjoyable and informative 4 week stay. Everyone I have met here at Pravara has been friendly, knowledgeable and seems to genuinely care about rural people. I will defiantly Miss PRAVARA.*





team of dedicated doctors, nurses, lab. technicians conduct the Maternal & Child Health Clinic, General Clinic and dispense drugs and organize health awareness sessions. They also studied roles & functions of the community level health infrastructure promoted by CSM by interacting with Female Health Volunteer (FHV), Anganwadi Worker (AWW), School Teachers. Interaction with patients and their relatives who visited the Mobile Clinics has given some idea of rural life in India. Participation in a Multi-diagnostic and Treatment Camp organized by the University Hospital on one of the Sunday's was a learning experience for the students to understand the importance of such "out-reach" programs to serve the remote rural people.

### Visits to Diagnostic and Treatment Facilities at University

#### Teaching Hospital (20 hours)

The Course included observational visits to 800 bedded multi-specialty tertiary level PIMS University teaching hospital located in the Campus to appreciate the delivery of medical & nursing care to patients. The main objective of visiting various diagnostic, medical and nursing care delivery units at out-door and indoor care of General Medicine, Paediatrics, Gynecology & Obstetrics, Surgery, Orthopedics, Ophthalmology, and Family Medicine departments was to observe the socio-economic, demographic and morbidity profile of the patients. The visits also helped in interaction with the medical & nursing faculty & students about the treatment modalities, options and methods. Visits to HIV/AIDS Diagnostic & Treatment Centers (ICTC & ART Center), Tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment Centres (DOTS) of the University Hospital provided the much anticipated response from the students.

#### Visits to Community Projects to Underserved : (25 hours)

*Tribals (indigenous people), FSWs, MSM Population & Migratory People & Deaf, Dumb & blind Children*

The students visited the ongoing community projects implemented by the CSM mainly for underserved and vulnerable sections of the Society i.e., Targetted

Interventions for prevention of STI & HIV/AIDS for *Female Sex Workers (FSWs), Male having Sex with Male (MSM) & Migratory workers* in urban settlements (Malegaon & Nashik) of the State. Students could interact with the Project staff as well as the stakeholders - FSWs, MSM & Migratory workers of the program. Visit to a School for Deaf, Dumb & blind children was a rewarding experience for the students.

#### Participation in Community Health & Development Activities (10 hours)

The students were demonstrated the techniques of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) in village Pratappur. PRA tools like Seasonality mapping, Timeline, Household



**ANDREA TURNER**

Portland State University  
Oregon, USA

*It is exciting for me to see what is done here in nursing care and compare it to nursing school system in America. It was an amazing experience in which I learned A LOT.*



**Ms. Kajsa Brandstrom**

Uppsala University,  
Sweden

*The Program has been amazing The RHC & Mobile Clinic Songaon Missionary Hospital visits were very good We learn a lot from Pravara Hospital visits especially orthopedic department Overall it has been a very interesting visit and I have learnt a lot.*





**Mr. Per Person**  
Umea University,  
Sweden

*The program was very good and gave me good knowledge of the rural health concepts. Visits to Orthopedics & Pediatric wards was quite informative. Visits to community health projects for tribal people, Sex Workers & MSM population was very interesting. The hostel is very clean and staff are service minded.*

survey, School visit & briefing of Children screening was done at the village. They were also involved in the Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with the members of Village Self Governing Bodies, women SHGs and villagers.

The much appreciated activity of the students were the hands-on-training-cum-demonstration session conducted at one of the Rural Primary Schools on "Hand-washing and Dental Hygiene", and participating in a Village Family Visit program along with undergraduate medical students of the PIMS University medical school.

### **Minor Research Studies (15 hours)**

Some students could not resist their inquisitive research interests inspite of the limitations & constraints of time for carrying out minor studies entitled "Women's Health and Family Planning in Loni, Maharashtra", and "Knowledge, Attitudes and Perceptions of People Living with HIV/AIDS attending the ART Centre of PIMS University Hospital" by interviewing the patients and their relatives visiting the PIMS University Hospital.

### **Other Learning Opportunitites (15 hours)**

The students also visited other institutes/activities like *Krishi Vigyan Kendra* (Farm Science Center), Asia's first Farmers owned Cooperative Sugar Processing Unit, State run Rural Hospital & Integrated Child Development Center (ICDS). The students took active part in the celebrations of World Population Day, World Safe Motherhood Day & World Pediatrics Day (Quiz Program) organized at the Centre by involving the village community and medical school students.

### **Providing Feedback, Sharing Experiences & Farewell (5 hours)**

The participating students shared their learnings, experiences, returned formal feed back forms during the concluding & farewell session. The Centre for Social Medicine thanked the participating students for opting to undertake the course, great display of interest & involvement in learning and assimilating the concepts and facts while doing the course. All participating students were awarded the Course completion Certificates.

### **Stay in the University Campus & Week-end Tours :**

The participants were accommodated at the International Center, which is equipped with luxury single and double occupancy rooms, located in the PIMS University Campus. The participants were provided with intercome telephone facility, internet facility (on actual charge basis), common laundry and common kitchen in the Hostel. They dined at the Postgraduate student Mess in the Campus and enjoyed Indian hospitality with spicy food.

The students had visited the world heritage Budha caves at Ellora Aurangabad which is 100 km. away on week-end.

**Prof. K.V. Somasundaram**  
**Course Director**

**Dr. Prasanna Dhore, Dr. Sunil Thitame**  
**Course Coordinators**

This One month Certificate Course is offered for international students on a regular basis. Interested students & faculty may contact:

**Prof. K.V. Somasundaram,**

Director, Centre for Social Medicine, PIMS – DU,  
Loni, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, India

E-mail: [soma.konduri@pmtpims.org](mailto:soma.konduri@pmtpims.org)



**MUNI SHARON REDDY**  
Oregon Health & Science University,  
USA

*Family visits with the Medical Students and visit to the deaf and blind school was interesting and impressive. NRI hostel was a great place to stay and staff was very helpful. I had wonderful stay at PIMS and it was above my expectation.*