

CHAPTER: 15

TO EVALUATE THE FUNCTIONING OF DISTRICT EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRE ESTABLISHED UNDER RASHTRIYA BAL SWASTHYA KARYAKARAM

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INTRODUCTION

In India, there was a acknowledged need to secure a strong and flourishing future for the establishment of a well-grounded society. Recognizing the importance of addressing the equitable healthcare needs of children through early detection and treatment, it was identified as a crucial initiative. The health screening of children emerged as a central intervention within the School Health Programme, encompassing the entire specified age group of children. On an annual basis, 1.7 million cases of birth defects were documented in India, contributing to 9.6 percent of all newborn deaths. Additionally, 10 percent of children faced developmental delays, and without proper intervention, these delays had the potential to result in permanent disabilities [1].

The District Early Intervention Centre (DEIC) was founded with the intention of providing healthcare to children who have been diagnosed with medical issues, particularly those who have developmental disabilities, which impact roughly 10% of children (2). The National Sample Survey Organization (2002) estimated that there were 1.85 crore disabled people in India overall. With the intention of improving accessibility, DEIC was established to house all the resources and equipment required for multidisciplinary assessments and interventions in one location [3].

RESEARCH QUESTION

What was the existing state of the infrastructure, personnel, and equipment at the DEIC located in the Indore district of Madhya Pradesh?

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To evaluate inconsistencies concerning infrastructure, personnel, and equipment as outlined in the DEIC Operational Guidelines.

2. To determine the work experience and job satisfaction of staff members employed at DEIC Indore.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research employed a cross-sectional observational approach to assess deficiencies in the infrastructure, staffing, and equipment of the district early intervention center. The study spanned three months, from February to May 2017. The current state of infrastructure, staff, and equipment at the District Early Intervention Centre was unveiled through in-depth discussions with employees, observations, and record reviews. The study type was qualitative, cross-sectional, and observational, involving unstructured data collection commonly used in social sciences, with a focus on observable qualities rather than numerical data. The research emphasized a detailed investigation with a smaller number of participants.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The results revealed that there was insufficient manpower in DEIC. According to the DEIC Operational guidelines, the total manpower for DEIC should be 10, but only 6 people were available at the time of assessment. The expected number of visiting specialists was 5, but currently, only an orthopedic specialist was available. The equipment in DEIC was not adequately accessible. Concerns were identified in the physical infrastructure, including issues related to cleanliness, the availability of display boards, the absence of a laboratory facility.

CONCLUSION

The DEIC located in Indore experienced shortages in personnel, equipment, and physical infrastructure. Regarding job experience and satisfaction, a significant number of DEIC workers viewed their roles as crucial in delivering services to beneficiaries. Numerous employees noted receiving aid and encouragement from

peers, as well as from supervisors and higher authorities as needed. Nonetheless, DEIC personnel also faced difficulties in fulfilling their duties.

REFERENCES

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