

Oral Cancer Screening by Health Workers

Outcomes on the study on Oral Cancer Screening: Development of Research Partnership and Feasibility Study

Introduction and background: The Feasibility of Training Community Health Workers in the Detection of Oral Cancer was conducted in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (India) to assess the feasibility of community health workers in screening and early detection of oral cancer using a mobile application capturing system. The film on oral cancer screening is an outcome based on the findings of the research, concluding trained community health workers were able after initial supervision by qualified dentists to perform oral cancer screening programs.

Objective: The film is made to train community health workers to perform the screening for oral potentially malignant disorders in resource-constrained settings.

Methods:

1. **Film Script:** The film script was developed based on the research study findings. The script included introduction about the oral cancer, including potentially malignant disorders. The section on most common potentially malignant disorders included visuals of how the lesion looked like, along with its causation and the oral cavity site most commonly affected. Towards the end, the emphasis is given on delivering the health education message to the patients at risk or screened positive to avoid exposure to risk factors, with emphasis on quitting tobacco. To make it more receivable, the information on referral mechanisms was kept in order to strengthen the utilization of referral services and tobacco cessation clinics established under the health programs of government of India. The script was shared with the local institutional team for peer review, and was finalized after adopting the necessary and feasible suggestions.
2. **Engagement with the film production house:** In order to produce a replicable, high quality training film, the local film production team was hired.
3. **Audio-visual content compilation:** The studio-based recording of the English and vernacular language audio based on the film script was done. The visuals for the film were shot at an urban health training centre located in Chandigarh to capture the shots of health worker interacting with and conducting a preliminary examination of the high risk patient. Further, some animations were designed by the video development team and the remaining relevant pictures were obtained from the internet. The due credit was mentioned wherever required.
4. **Peer review:** The video clip was shared with local team for the peer review and necessary changes done as per suggestions. The health workers were also shown the film to take their views and reception about the content accordingly
5. **Dissemination:** The film was shared with UK team for their inputs and use at their end. In India, the film was officially released by DHS, Chandigarh as Indo-UK partnership project outcome during National Dissemination Meeting held at Chandigarh on 17th November 2022. The meeting was attended by important stakeholders who can contribute in increasing the reception of film by the training agencies. (annexure 1)

Details about the film:

Film title: Oral Cancer Screening by Health Workers- Outcomes on the study on Oral Cancer Screening: Development of Research Partnership and Feasibility Study

Scope of film: The short film on oral cancer screening covers information on five most common precancerous lesions namely leukoplakia, Erythroplakia, oral submucous fibrosis, smoker's palate and tobacco pouch keratosis highlighting their causes and associated signs and symptoms. The film will be a useful tool for capacity building of health workers under these programs at national and state level.

Target audience: Community health workers and general public

Language (s) developed in: English, Vernacular (Hindi)

Expected outcomes: Utilization of the video film by community health workers will improve in the quality of screening (reduction in the false positive cases) and visually impactful tool to strengthen patient education.

Annexure

List of participants at the National Dissemination Meeting, 17th November 2022

1. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India:
 - a. Dr. L. Swasticharan, Additional Deputy Director General, Directorate of Health Services, Government of India
2. Health Department, Chandigarh Administration
 - a. Dr. Suman Singh, Directorate Health Services, Union Territory Chandigarh, India
3. Indo-UK Partnership team:
 - a. Prof. JS Thakur, Professor of Community Medicine, Department of Community Medicine and School of Public Health, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, India
 - b. Prof. Paramjit Gill, Head of Division of Health Sciences, Professor of General Practice, Warwick Medical School, University of Warwick United Kingdom
4. Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, India
 - a. Prof. Rakesh Sehgal, Dean (Academics), PGIMER, Chandigarh
 - b. Prof. Samir Malhotra, Head, Department of Pharmacology, PGIMER
 - c. Prof. Sanjay Kumar Bhadada, Head, Department of Endocrinology, PGIMER
 - d. Prof. Rakesh Kapoor, Prof and Head of Radiotherapy, Unit 2, PGIMER, Chandigarh
 - e. Oral Health Sciences Center, PGIMER Chandigarh team
 - i. Prof. Ashima Goyal, Head
 - f. Dr. Arpit Gupta, Associate Professor
5. Health Worker from Urban Health and Training Centre, Chandigarh, India
 - Ms. Mamta Rani, Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM)
6. Government Medical College and Hospital, Chandigarh, India:
 - Dr. Awadhesh Kumar Pandey, Department of Radiation Oncology
7. International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Lyon
 - Dr. Andre Carvalho, Head, Early Detection Prevention, and Infections
8. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, India
 - Dr. Ashoo Grover, Scientist 'F', Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi
9. Government Multi-Specialty Hospital, Chandigarh
 - Dr. Varinder Nagpal, Medical Superintendent

Annexure 2

Picture Gallery, National Dissemination Meeting





- Single molecules
- Polymeric chains
- Polymeric gels
- Gels
- Self-assembly
- Self-assembly for drug delivery
- Self-assembly for the construction of soft devices
- Conclude lecture