

Free Medical Check-Up Of Children Of Construction Workers On 26-8-2007

A free Medical Check-up was organized on 26-8-2007(A/N) for the benefit of children of construction workers, living in the slums in vicinity of IBM India Research Labs. At Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. Three senior doctors, consisting of a lady ophthalmologist, and two Physicians were kind enough to volunteer their precious time and agreed to work for these children. Our volunteer Dentist could not participate due to unexpected demise in the immediate family. Besides support from other active members of the group, three volunteers namely Mrs. Raghavan and Dr. K. V .Raghavan and Dr.A. K. Srivastava participated and helped organize the event.

2.0 Scope of the Medical check-Up :-

This was the first organized medical check-Up undertaken by our group and first experience for the target-group of children ,as well. Keeping in view the infrastructure available at the site, it was decided to screen the children for their basic problems only. Cards for medical check-up was made for 40 children only, though some infants were attended to informally. Some adults, both gents and ladies wanted to extend the facilities to them also, but were denied due to paucity of time.

Besides, name, age, sex, height, weight, chest circumference, a complete check-Up by Physician for heart & lower abdomen(with emphasis on condition of liver, spleen etc.), general health conditions and specific recommendations were done. Eye- sight, vision, check for Glaucoma, cataract, night blindness, and general health conditions of eyes were done. General Oral hygiene ,dental Carries, Cavities were also checked.

Fruits and Milk was distributed to all children present, after the medical check-up.

3.0 Gist Of Findings/Observations By The Attending Doctors :-

3.01 No. of children attended : 40

3.01(a) No. of Boys : 20

3.01(b) No. of Girls : 20

3.02. No. of children found with vital Vitamin'A' deficiencies (total:9) , leading to possible blindness, if not attended to immediately :-

3.02(a) No. of Girls : 3

3.02(b) No. of Boys : 6

3.03No. of children found with acute eye infections (conjunctivits): 3

3.04 No. of children found with vital infections (in ear) :2

3.05 No. of children found with Dental Problems :6

3.05(a) No. of children with cavities : 3

3.05(b) No. of children with carries : 6

3.06 No. of children requiring with immediate Deworming : 1

3.07 General Comments :-

i)Though the height and weight of all children are generally within acceptable limits, keeping in view their social and financial back ground ,mal-nutrition and lack of vital vitamins is rampant.

ii)The general health condition of the girls are poorer in comparison to the boys.

iii)Children should be told and encouraged about general personal hygiene, like taking bath, brushing teeth etc regularly.

iv)Keeping in view, the prevailing living conditions, lack of proper toilet facilities, de-worming of all children is required to be done periodically ,say every six months.