

HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP FOR SOS VILLAGE CHILDREN



Access to healthcare services is critical to good health, yet rural residents face a variety of access barriers. These are significant achievements for a country that is home to nearly a sixth of the world's population. But challenges still remain and India's economic successes have not resulted in improved quality of life for everyone everywhere, especially women and children. Children from rural areas, slums and urban poor families, scheduled castes, tribal communities and other disadvantaged populations suffer from multiple deprivations related to poverty, malnutrition, access to quality health services, child marriage, poor school attendance, low learning outcomes, lack of sanitation facilities, hygiene, and access to improved water.

Anaemia is a condition in which the number of red blood cells or the haemoglobin concentration within them is lower than normal. Haemoglobin is needed to carry oxygen and if you have too few or abnormal red blood cells, or not enough haemoglobin, there will be a decreased capacity of the blood to carry oxygen to the body's tissues. This results in symptoms such as fatigue, weakness, dizziness and shortness of breath, among others. The optimal haemoglobin concentration needed to meet physiologic needs varies by age, sex, elevation of residence, smoking habits and pregnancy status. The most common causes of anaemia include nutritional deficiencies, particularly iron deficiency, though deficiencies in folate, vitamins B12 and A are also important causes; haemoglobinopathies; and infectious diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis, HIV and parasitic infections.

Anaemia is a serious global public health problem that particularly affects young children and pregnant women. WHO estimates that 42% of children less than 5 years of age and 40% of pregnant women worldwide are anaemic.



A Day wonderfully spent with SOS Village kids as we organised a healthcare program at SOS Children village, Faridabad on 6 March 2022 including Haemoglobin and Blood group screening along with the distribution of delicious and nutritious meal aims to counter malnutrition!!

We have received an overwhelming response for the initiative. We are confident that this kind of planned and continuous health interventions brings us towards building a healthier nation.”

SOS Children's Village Faridabad is situated near the city of New Delhi. Faridabad has about 1.7 million inhabitants and plays a central role in the region's economy, producing agricultural goods and machinery. In recent years some governmental offices have moved out of Delhi and into Faridabad. Throughout India, people from rural areas are migrating to urban areas in search of a better life. Faridabad is no exception, due to its thriving economy and location near the capital city. However, the city's infrastructure has not been able to keep up with this development; because no affordable housing was available, the newly arrived migrants created their own settlements wherever they found space, and using whatever materials were at hand.

Globally, infectious diseases, including pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria, along with pre-term birth, birth asphyxia and trauma, and congenital anomalies remain the leading causes of death for children under five. Access to basic lifesaving interventions such as skilled delivery at birth, postnatal care, breastfeeding and adequate nutrition, vaccinations, and treatment for common childhood diseases can save many young lives. Malnourished children, particularly those with severe acute malnutrition, have a higher risk of death from common childhood illness such as diarrhoea, pneumonia, and malaria. Nutrition-related factors contribute to about 45% of deaths in children under-5 years of age.



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Our health camps have two goals- provide necessary preventive health care services, and educate communities on preventive care and nutritional diet. We organize our camps in many rural areas where they have no access to primary health centres. Thus, providing rural families with good health care services for their children help us contribute towards improving the child health care condition of rural India.