

Promoting and protecting the health of infant, toddler, and preschool populations

- Healthy children are a vital resource to ensure the future well being of a nation.
- Many issues that let global world focus on children issues: poverty, not receiving immunization, accidents and injuries.
- This chapter will explore the global needs of related services available to children and most vulnerable of society members.
- Also explore the role of the community health nurse in providing those services.

Global view of infant, toddler, and preschool health

- **The health of children in one country will affect the health of children in other countries.**
- **Children mostly travel with their parents, through community disaster, war, and natural disasters.**
- **Some countries female infants are not valued, sold to another family, or prevented from going to school.**
- **In China pregnancy termination is encouraged.**
- **Some children parent practice some illegal rituals on their children.**

- **Many infant issues which result from political unrest, affect use and distribution of resources between children.**
- **The most developed countries have lowest infant mortality rates.**
- **Globally the quality of family living conditions, mode of transmission of infectious disease agent, nutritional status are among the strongest immediate determinant of mortality rate in children less than 5 years.**
- **The late 1940s. The decline in death among 5 years related to improved sanitation, safe water supply, secure housing, adequate food supply and general hygiene.**
- **In the poorest countries, infant and young children are most vulnerable.**
- **The most common conditions are respiratory infections, parasites, injuries, and digestive diseases.**
- **Other health problem, less easy to detect and measure emotional, behavioral, intellectual problems. Estimation 15%**
- **These problems lead to school failure, alcohol or drug use, violence, and suicide.**
- **Studies found association between learning disorder and violent behaviors. Learning disorder and behavioral problems caused by genetic and environmental influence.**
- **In the developing Early marriage of girls at the age of 15 to 16, avoidance of using FP methods, result in 6-10 children.**
- **All that lead to inadequate child care, poor housing, limited health insurance, and limited access to higher education**

Health problems of infant toddlers, and preschoolers

- **Infant mortality rate often considered as a sensitive indicator of the general health status in a population.**
- **Decrease in infant death is related to improved maternal health, spacing of children, infant immunization and infant safety.**
- **Causes of death among child years old:**
- **Unintentional injures; falls , drowning , burns, Malignant neoplasm, Birth defects, Heart disease**

Main health problems

- 1. Accidents and injuries**
- 2. Communicable disease**
- 3. Chronic diseases**
- 4. Poor nutrition and dental hygiene**
- 5. The effect of poverty.**

1. Accidents and injuries

- **Unintentional injuries: falls, drowning, automobile crash, burns, poisoning.**
- **The fifth leading cause of death in U.S.A.**
- **Falling from bed, leaving child playing, hose fire, cigarette lighter.**
Prevented by close supervision, safe storage of dangerous instruments.
Testing bath water.
- **Provide drown free environment.**
- **Use car seat belt for children.**
- **Keep medication and cleaning detergents in a well secure place.**

2. Communicable diseases

- **Respiratory illness make up over one half of acute conditions.**
- **Incidence of measles, rubella, mumps dropped related to immunization.**
- **Importance of receiving recommended schedule of vaccine.**
- **The seventh leading cause of death is AIDS.**

3. Chronic disease.

- **Many young children are afflicted with chronic disease that affect their lives.**
- **Asthma is the most common.**
- **Food sensitivity, which can be managed by avoidance of such foods.**
- **Muscular dystrophy (progressive muscular atrophy), cystic fibrosis, affect quality of life , and severely shorten it.**
- **CF. Is characterized by respiratory infection, pancreatic insufficiency, and increased electrolytes in sweat.**

4. Behavioral and learning problems

- **Are recognized firstly at school.**
- **Difficult to measure, but 20% of school aged children have learning disabilities and behavioral problems.**
- **Related to hyperactivity , and noncompliance problems**
- **Developmental disabilities are sever , chronic disabilities, characterized by physical and mental impairment**
- **Limitations of three or more of the following areas: self-care, leaning, mobility, self-direction, and economic insufficiency.**

5. Poor nutrition and dental hygiene.

- **Under- or overfeeding, overeating, and inappropriate food choice, and poor dental care.**
- **Benefits of breast feeding includes: convenience, fee cost, anti infective**

- **Overfeeding can lead to childhood obesity and become risk for HD, HTN, DM.**
- **Child(16-16m) fall a sleep with bottle causes decay in the front teeth.**
- **Early mouth care for the child is very important.**
- **Child at toddler age should start brushing teeth with parents supervision. Dentist visit at age of 3 or earlier.**

6. The effect of poverty

- **Related to: raising by single parent, disability in the family, less education, lower occupational level.**
- **Are less to seek preventive family care, or advice of specialists, and presence of chronic illness.**
- **Homeless children can contribute to self- esteem, emotional and mental health disturbance.**
- **CHN can contact family with preventive resources, educational resources financial resources in the community**

Health services for infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

1. Health prevention programs
2. Health promotion programs.
3. Health protection programs

1. Prevention health programs

- 1.1 Immunization programs
- 1.2 Quality day care programs.
- 1.3 Parental support services.

2. Health protection programs

- 2.1 Safety and injury protection.
- 2.2 Protection from communicable diseases.
- 2.3 Protection from dental carries.
- 2.4 Protection from child abuse and neglect.
 - 2.4.1 Primary prevention
 - 2.4.2 Secondary prevention
 - 2.4.3 Tertiary prevention.

3. Health promotion programs

- 3.1 Early child hood developmental programs.
- 3.2 Nutritional programs.
- 3.3 Physical fitness programs
- 3.4** Programs for children with special needs.

Role of community health nurse

- **Faced by continuity of assessing clients with health problems and determining available and needed services.**
- **CHN intervention include, health education, engineering and enforcement**
- **Health education: FP, nutrition, exercise, safety precautions childcare.**
- **Engineering includes immunization enrolling nutrition programs, preventing communicable diseases, usage of child safety devices.**
- **Enforcement intervention includes enforce certain immunization, reporting child abuse, report environmental problem.**
- **CHN acts as advocate and a resource for family of young children**
- **Ensuring that availability of educational, medical social services.**
- **Ensuring that families have the resources to provide for a safe and health environment.**