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Project Title

Assessment and Awareness of Antenatal Health Care Services Among Rural Woman of Chhattisgarh

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Assessment and Awareness of Antenatal Health Care Services Among Rural Woman of Chhattisgarh

Identification of the Issues

Before taking up any research it is very important to identify the issues, if any, that needs to be addressed. 'CBPR' is an increasingly popular term, particularly in the field of health research. While some definitions of CBPR have a focus on health, we are using the term in a broader sense to encompass research in a variety of fields that is 'community-based' and 'participatory'. CBPR is research that entails some degree of active involvement of a range of community stakeholders and generally operates from a value base, derived from a commitment to sharing power and resources and working for beneficial outcomes for all participants.

Indeed, Israel, Schultz, Parker, and Becker (1998), in an influential review, characterize CBPR as research that is based on a set of values that includes the promotion of equal partnerships and co-learning and an explicit commitment to ensuring research leads to, and is informed by, action.

This description of CBPR could fit equally well with much research that is characterized as 'participatory action research' (PAR).

Identification of the issue in the community

For the identification of issues that were required to be addressed we visited the adjoining villages of Raipur. In the first visit to the village, we approached the village head, who is locally called "Sarpanch". He introduced us to community health workers of that area. We also met two teachers of primary school on our first visit. Our aim was rapport establishment and identification of the issues, if any, which was required to be addressed. In our second visit to the village, a door to door medicine distribution for Filariasis was going on, in which we joined hands with the health workers. Went door to door with them. In this run we met a couple of families and had some discussions of their general well being. Around the

conversation, we came to know that there existed some issues regarding the Antenatal health care services and the community members wanted those issues to be addressed. This is how we focused our study around the ANC health care services and utilization of various health schemes for pregnant and lactating woman as well as for children below six years of age .Utilization of the various health schemes run under health care centers i.e. under the Anganwadi centers were covered in this study.

Health is a common theme in most of the cultures & communities have their own believe systems as well as concepts of health as a part of their culture. The broader aim was *HEALTH FOR ALL*.

The issues that we worked on were as under-

- Utilization of Antenatal Health Care Services run under anganwadi centers.
- Assessment of various ongoing Government schemes for ANC health Care services.



First visit along with community members and health care workers

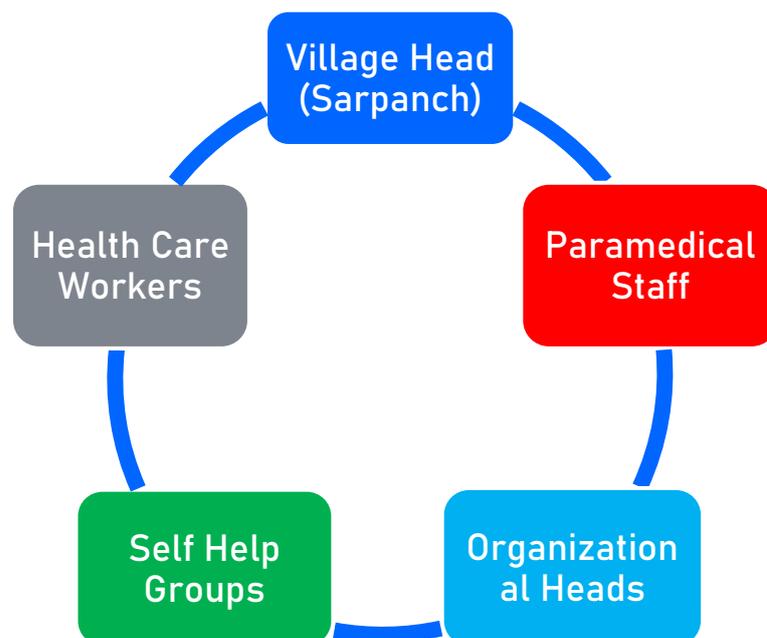
Area of Study

Area of study was the adjoining villages of Raipur situated at Amleshwar, which covered six health care centres which are called "Anganwadi centres" .

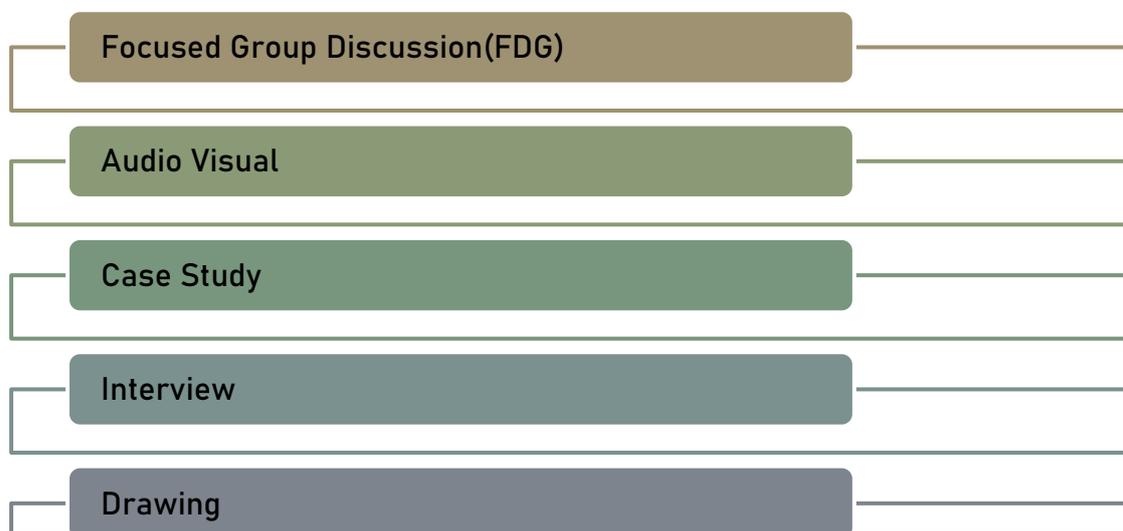
Target Group



Partners of the Research



Methods Employed



Assessment & Utilization of Government Antenatal Health Care Services

- Janani Suraksha Yojna
- Prime Ministers MatriVandanYojna
- ANC care at Community Health Centres.
- Mahatari express Yojna
- Immunization of the new borns
- Nutritional Food Supply Scheme (PoshakAaharYojna) for Pregnant and Lactating Women and children under age group 6 years.



Focused Group Discussion (FDG)



Audio Visual

Key Findings

- Awareness for the various ANC services was very good.
- Acceptance for the ANC services was also excellent.
- Consumption of IFA tablets by the pregnant women was not up to the mark (300 IFA tablets was not done).
- Issues with receiving money transfer as per Matri Vandan Yojanana.
- Non availability of Health Care specialist and equipment's especially at the local health care centers.
- The distance of the health care centers for checkups by Specialists was not approachable.
- Non availability of sonography facilities at the local health care centers was observed .
- The supplementary food provided to the pregnant and lactating women as per Various Government schemes had issues regarding acceptance as per local taste and requirements.

Suggestions

- While dissemination of results was done at the community health center and panchayat office in presence of the community representatives and organizational heads demand for making changes in the supplementary food .
- They suggested for incorporation of high protein diet especially eggs, fishes and mushrooms at the health centers.
- They also suggested for fast money transfer as per Matri Vandan yojna.
- The community members also demanded for making changes in the supplementary food as pre local taste.

Recommendations

- Availability of Specialist and better health facilities should be provided at their localities.
- Awareness programmes regarding intake of supplementary health food and health care promotion programmes should be promoted at the local communities.
- Improvisation in supplementary food should be done as per local needs, taste and availability.