

**Workshop on**  
**“Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Health Protection”**  
**A Brief Report**

Training in “Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Health Protection” is a key competency required for all practitioners of Public Health. The potential ability to engage fully in surveillance, mount an effective public health emergency response and undertake preparedness activities is important for international health security. The emergence of new types of threats, the continued occurrence of natural and man-made disaster together with impacts of climate change are interrelated and are a cause for health security concern globally. This training programme is an effort by the **Department of Community Medicine, Rajarajeswari Medical College (RRMC) Bangalore in association with the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences and Medical education and Research Trust, Bangalore**. The aim of this project is to increase overall epidemiological capacity and enhance public health emergency preparedness and response skills using three inter-related components: *enhancing knowledge; improving skills; and, building networks*. The outcomes of the training will go a long way in strengthening public health, epidemiological concepts and emergency preparedness especially with respect to Water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion, outbreak investigation and surveillance which will be instrumental in reducing the morbidity and mortality due to many of the common infectious diseases in India. This in turn will help reduce threat national as well as internationally.

**Course Objectives**

This five-day intense training course aims to

- Enhance understanding of the key epidemiological concepts relating to infectious disease epidemiology and health protection
- Foster effective collaboration and co-ordination during the investigation of disease outbreaks
- Equip participants with the skills required to design and implement surveillance systems
- Enhance the understanding of statistical approaches required as a public health epidemiologist

In this regard a 5-day intensive training programme on “Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Health Protection” was conducted between 05<sup>th</sup> to 09<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at RajaRajeswari Medical College. This was 6<sup>th</sup> year this programme was conducted at this institution. The programme received good response in terms of participation, over 41 participants who comprised of Post-Graduates and Junior Faculty from the Dept of community Medicine from various Medical Colleges from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Kerala participated in the workshop. The workshop was held between 8am to 4pm, the time table is herewith attached. The course was delivered using a variety of teaching-learning methods. These include lectures, interactive group work amongst participants, undertaking tasks to produce plans and responses to specific scenarios, one-to-one discussions (depending on individual needs), pre-test, post-test and self-directed study.

The Resource persons for the Workshop:

1. Dr. Prakash Kumar K C, SSU and Joint Director, NVBDCP, Govt. of India
2. Dr. Pradeep B S, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Epidemiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore
3. Dr. Mariamma Philip, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Bio Statistics, NIMHANS, Bangalore
4. Dr. Shashikala Manjunatha, Prof and HOD, Dept. of Community Medicine, RRMCH
5. Dr. B G Parasuramalu, Professor, Dept. of Community Medicine, RRMCH
6. Dr. Srividya V, Assoc. professor, Dept. of Community Medicine, RRMCH
7. Dr. Raghuram R, Assoc. professor, Dept. of Community Medicine, ACSMCH, Chennai
8. Dr. Swapna M, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Community Medicine, RRMCH

All the participants were actively involved in the sessions and gave a positive feedback at the end of the programme. The programme concluded with valedictory function with distribution of certificates.