

Public health priorities in National Health Policy, Population Policy & HPNSDP

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NATIONAL HEALTH POLICY (NHP) 2011

Constitutional priorities in Health Policy

- The State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the improvement of public health as moving its primary duties ...
 - Article 18(1); Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh expressed agreement on the following declarations

- [The Alma Ata Declaration \(1978\)](#)
- [The World Summit for Children \(1990\)](#)
- [International Conference on Population and Development \(1994\)](#)
- [Beijing Women's Conference \(1995\)](#)

Objectives related to PH

1. To develop the public health and nutrition status of the people as per Section 18(A) of the Bangladesh Constitution
2. To ensure establishment of Community Clinic for every area of 6000 people
3. To ensuring gender equity in health service
4. To ensure co-ordination between different ministries & departments related to public health & medical service (One Health approach)

Objectives

5. To strengthen disease prevention ...
6. To ensure people's rights for access to health information
7. To establish surveillance for adverse health effects of climate change and evolve ways to prevent it

Challenges

- All the challenges, (as mentioned in NHP) i.e.,
 - Neo-natal & maternal mortality rate still high
 - Infant mortality rate still high
 - Communicable disease control needs more effort
 - Non-communicable disease rising
 - Emerging and re-emerging disease
 - Natural disaster and climate change

- Food and nutrition
- Urban health system
- Rural health system
- Demographic change and lifestyle change
- Health research
- ICT and epidemiological surveillance
- Awareness creating about healthy lifestyle
- Can be faced by public health measures

Strategies related to PH

1. Formation of National Health Council headed by Hon'ble Prime Minister
2. Formation of Executive Committee headed by Hon'ble Health Minister
3. Importance to Primary Health Care
4. Special importance to disease prevention and health awareness to achieve 'Health for all': a public health approach

Strategies ...

5. Expanding disease surveillance and co-ordinating with disease control: public health
6. Health education unit in every upazilla
7. Gender equity
8. Integrated MIS
9. Enhancing quality and scope of health research, increasing budget: public health is an essential component
10. Health insurance

Strategies ...

11. Involving professional organisations in health care planning and implementation: public health organisations will be involved
12. Strengthening Communicable disease prevention & control programme: public health domain
13. Co-ordinated steps for prevention, cure & rehabilitation of non-communicable diseases – awareness campaign and promoting healthy lifestyle

Strategies ...

14. Co-ordinated initiative to tackle adverse health effects of climate change
15. Prevention of disease through EPI
16. Operationalising full scale school health services, reproductive health education
17. Ensuring health promotion of industrial and agricultural workforce
18. Disease detection, surveillance & management at points of entries

BANGLADESH POPULATION POLICY

Major objectives related to PH

- Provision of child immunisation, supply of Vitamin A and other micronutrients
- Free access to information relating to behavioural change
- Gender equity and empowerment
- Provide nutritional knowledge to prevent malnutrition
- Conducive environment for better living and public health facilities

Strategy related to PH

- To raise awareness amongst high risk population by ensuring access to essential information and services

**Health Population and Nutrition
Sector Development Program
(HPNSDP)**

2011-16

Sector performance

- All are public health achievements
 - Decline in MMR, IMR, <5 yr IMR
 - Increase in EPI coverage
 - Decline population growth, TFR
 - Percentage of Vitamin A receiving children increasing
 - Life expectancy at birth increasing
 - TB case detection and cure rate achieved: MDG
 - Polio & leprosy virtually eliminated
 - Malnutrition & micro-nutrient deficiency reduced
 - HIV prevalence very low
 - Remarkable countrywide network of health care infrastructure

Main challenges

- All challenges can be faced by public health approach
 - High rates of neonatal death, malnutrition & micronutrient deficiencies
 - Emerging & re-emerging diseases and adverse health effect of climate change
 - Rise in NCDs
 - Ineffective urban primary health care service delivery
 - Low utilization of public health facilities by poor people

Strategies related to PH

May be successful by public health measures

- Expanding access and quality of MNCH services
- Mainstreaming nutrition within DGHS & DGFP
- Strengthening preventive approaches as well as control programs to CDs & NCDs
- Improving MIS
- Pursuing priority institutional & policy reforms

Key HPN services: public health

- Vaccination through EPI
- RH & FP counselling
- Distribution of ORS, IFA supplements
- BCC and education program
- Nutrition education and micro-nutrient supplement

Conclusion

- Government is attaching much importance to public health to attain Sixth Five Year Plan and health related MDGs
- Still a lot of avenue remains to emphasise public health approach & measures
- More trained public health professional needed to cater the needs of improving health
- Public health organisations should come forward to claim stake in health policy implementation and future planning

THANK YOU

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