

**INCREASING THE IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE:
AN INTERVENTION THROUGH THE MOBILIZATION
OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH
WORKERS IN NEPAL**

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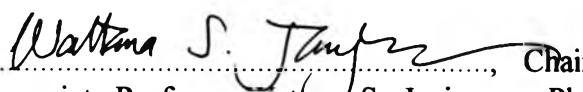
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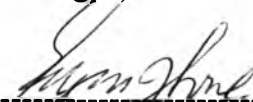
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ABSTRACT

IMR of Nepal is very high (86 / 1000 live births) in comparison with other countries of the world. The main causes of the high IMR are vaccine preventable diseases, ARI, and diarrhea. It can be reduce by appropriate immunization to the under five children.

The main issue is that, how to increase the immunization coverage in Nepal. In developing countries this can only be achieve through the PHC approach. Community Health Workers are the backbone of this program. So, appropriate training regarding EPI and community participation, and effective supervision of Maternal and Child Health Workers will be helpful to improve the immunization coverage in Nepal.

A Seven days EPI training will be carried out in July 1998 by the researcher with the help of Regional Training Centre, Surkhet, and District Health Office, Dang. After the training, MCHWs will provide the immunization service to the community in the Dang district. Impact evaluation will be carried out after one year of implementations of program. The methods of data collection will be official statistics, FGDs and survey questionnaire. Results of study will be compared with control district (Bardiya), which is geographically and demographically similar to Dang district.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ARI	=	Acute Respiratory Infection
EPI	=	Expanded Program for Immunization
FCHW	=	Female Community Health Volunteers
FGDS	=	Focus Group Discussions
GPV	=	Global Program for Vaccination
HMG	=	His Majesty's Government
IMR	=	Infant Mortality Rate
MCHW	=	Maternal and Child Health Workers
NIDs	=	National Immunization Days
PHC	=	Primary Health Care
UNICEF	=	United Nations International Children's Emergency Funds
VDC	=	Village Development Committee
WHO	=	World Health Organization