

OP 6: PRECLINICAL DEPARTMENTS IN THE MODEL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK

Kumaran S

Department of Community and Family Medicine, Faculty of medicine, University of Jaffna

Introduction: Non communicable diseases (NCD) are the first rank universal health burden. Current primary health care system in Sri Lanka (PHC) was formulated many years ago, mainly to deal with the maternal and child health and some acute communicable diseases but not for NCDs.

Methods: The Department of Community and Family medicine, Faculty of medicine University of Jaffna proposed a model PHC to tackle the NCD effectively. Family medicine principle was added to the new PHC. As the first step a Family health center was organized in the Divisional Hospital Kondavil. The center introduces various activities for the betterment of the community; appointment based consultation, counseling, home visits, screening NCDS, mobilizing the community towards health, conducting researches to address the local health problems and teaching the undergraduates. This center works hands in hand with the Nallur Medical officer of health (MOH) and the divisional hospital staffs to look after the health needs of the residents of Nallur MOH area.

Discussion: The new model will achieve even more if the preclinical Departments of Jaffna medical faculty join with it. The preclinical departments can give their supports in various ways; introducing individual dietary plans, exercise plans, conducting genetic counseling, investigation like spirometry and fasting blood sugar, lipid profile, conducting researches to find out the nutritional values of various local food products and formulate various local nomograms, etc The division as preclinical, paraclinical and clinical departments are only for the purpose of undergraduate teaching not for dealing with the public health.