

## **Best Practice I: Reaching Out ·**

### **Title: “REACHING OUT: COUNSELING AND AWARENESS OF COMMUNITY THROUGH PHARMACY STUDENTS” ·**

#### **Goal:**

- To provide counseling and awareness services to community.
- To explain efficiency, merits and applications of sanitary pads.
- To cultivate a sense of social responsibility in the students and inspire for community work.
- To bridge the theory praxis divide.

#### **Context:**

The local community is not at all aware with current knowledge of medicine handling, generic medicines, communicable diseases like AIDS, and utilization of sanitary pad.

The proper handling of medicine could benefit to patients by providing optimal use of medicine and quick relief from problem.

The women especially in slum area are not at all aware about handling, safety and use of sanitary Pads. The utilization of pads could benefit to women by providing hygienic health and comfort than traditional unhygienic pads.

The communicable diseases like AIDS could be prevented and treated through proper counseling and awareness.

Recently generic medicine concept is on focus, the branded medicines are relatively expensive than generic medicines. The peoples are required to make aware that both medicines are having equal efficiency and therefore the cost of medicine could be curtailed.

The counseling and awareness service work provides an ample opportunity for students to give something back to the society/community, as paying a debt for what they themselves have received.

This process of fuelling back into society one’s knowledge-wealth in diverse domains is not only an empowering and satisfying experience; it is also a great act of learning by itself in the making of responsive and responsible citizens of the country.

Knowledge of students becomes meaningful as they work with responsibility and practically.

#### **The Practice:-**

The students are actively involved in door to door counseling regarding how to handle medicines, storage of medicines, to maintain regularity in right time dosing, avoidance of

specific food, to maintain hygienic conditions and to avoid specific activities especially for patients who are under treatment of CNS depressants, sedatives at adopted village during NSS special camp.

On women day at nearby slum area girls students actively involved in this activity of counseling on utility of sanitary pad, to inspire women to maintain hygienic environment, importance of specific food to avoid dizziness and fatigue, to maintain regularity in cleaning, to maintain proper hygienic conditions and to avoid specific activities especially during menstruation. Also they are made aware by explaining differences between traditional unhygienic and specially prepared hygienic sanitary pads.

The generic medicine awareness is achieved by door to door counseling. People are made aware by explaining differences in cost and similarity in utility of branded and generic medicines, location of generic medical store, also merits of generic medicines explained at adopted village during NSS special camp.

People are made aware about preventive measures, causes, mode of spread and treatment on AIDS, every year by arranging the AIDS awareness rally and special program at nearby village “Dhankeshwar Temple” fair.

The students participated in a number of activities strengthen institution-community link.

### **Evidence of success**

The feedback collected from people upon counseling and awareness programs revealed success of this activity.

While extending one’s self for others, the students have been giving feedback as to how such practices have helped them to become authentic persons and sensitive budding professionals.

A sense of involvement and responsibility towards the community is an important element of students’ education. Through their interaction with marginalized people, students learn to address, question and finally reject discriminations in all forms.

### **Problems Encountered**

While conveying message in local language the handling of people mentality for a while to yield positive and satisfactory response is quite difficult.

Somewhere hesitation of women while counseling is became barrier of communication.

Limitation of time in the semester system of the university and businesses of women because of daily life schedule becomes major problem. It tends to work in off hrs and on holidays.

## **Resources required**

Enhanced no. of hands to fuel activities through NGOs working for social welfare. Planning structured time schedules to enable students to make this a practical part of their theoretical learning.

## **BEST PRACTICE: 02**

### **Title: - ORTHOPEDIC PATIENT REHABILITATION SUPPORT THROUGH EQUIPMENT BANK.**

#### **Objective:-**

To provide post surgical supporting appliances for deprived orthopedic patients.

To help economically backward people by providing costly appliances at free of cost.

Sustainable use of medical appliances and create social harmony.

#### **Context:-**

It has been observed that the purchasing of costly appliances used in post surgical treatment in case of orthopedic patients especially in proletariat is a major issue in the society. The patients who need temporary use of appliances such as wheelchair, walker, water bed, tricycle, hot water bags and arm-stick and commode chair cannot afford the purchase. So to meet need of such incapable patients, institute decided to provide these appliances at free of cost. This was an innovative service in nearby rural area. Initiative was taken in 2009-2010.

#### **Practice:-**

Purchasing of appliances was decided after discussion with orthopedics, physicians and surgeons. The foundation fund was received from J.S.P.M. All the responsibility of maintenance and allocation to the needy peoples was held with S.N. Institute of Pharmacy, Pusad. People seeking for use of service have to register details on telephonic conversation or personally visiting to institute. Transportation cost of appliances has to borne by users.

The responsibility of damage and any wear and tear of appliances lie with users. They are requested to return the equipment after their use. The collection of such equipment has been further increased by people of generous attitude. There are several such families around which have used such appliances for their beloved ones and have them lying idle after their use. Such families are contacted through PG students so, as to convince them for donation of the equipment for a good cause.

**Evidence of success:-**

The letter of thanks is received after the use of equipment by some of the beneficiaries. Near about 50 patients utilized. This provides us to have the feeling of returns of debts to the society. Students also learn their social responsibility.

The increased beneficiaries of such appliances could be evidenced from its register.

**Problem:-**

Initially it was difficult to decide list of appliances to be purchased for the service. This problem was discussed with leading orthopedics, physicians and surgeons of city. After receiving their suggestions the list was finalized. To make avail quality appliances through authenticated suppliers. Quotations were raised and purchase was made accordingly.

Regulation of service was practiced through institute.