# Action Nepal Report of the Program

## Multi sectorial Collaborative Workshop for NCD Prevention and Care – Time to Act.



Date: Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2019

Venue: Indreni Banquet, Naya Baneshwor,

Kathmandu, Nepal

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 am.

**Prepared By: Mohit Singh Thagunna** 

Research and Evaluation Officer Action Nepal 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2019

#### 1) The program and its objectives

The Program "**Multisectoral Collaborative Workshop for NCD Prevention and Care – Time to Act** was successfully held on Sunday, from 9 am to 11:30 am, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at Indreni Banquet, Naya Baneshwor, Kathmandu, Nepal. The program was organized and managed by Action Nepal in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) & The Union.

Khagraj Baral, Secretary, MoHP was a chairperson of the program and over 50 persons including MPs, government authorities, law makers, health media & civil society and health professionals participated in the program.

The major objective of the program was to have discussion on the preventions and control of NCD deaths in Nepal by bringing various stakeholders together and gain strong commitments to take initiation to control the NCDs. The other objectives of the program were

- To have interaction among the health experts, health professors, law makers and media personalities.
- To motivate policy makers and other concerned authorities to formulate plans and policy to control the NCD in Nepal
- To gain commitment from all the stakeholders to work in a coordinated way for the effective implementation of formulated plans and policies.

#### 2) Commencement of the Program

Master of Ceremony Mrs. Kalpana Acharya, Chairperson of Health Journalist Forum, Nepal, briefed about the program and introduced distinguished guests of the program.

Welcoming the participants of the program, Mr. Puskar Raj Nepal, Under Secretary, Law MoHP, highlighted the objective of the program. He formally welcomed and thanked, on behalf of Ministry of Health and Population, all the participants for their gracious presence in the event and urged the immediate need of actions from both government and non-government organizations in controlling NCD death rate in Nepal. On behalf of the organizers, he expressed hope to gain fruitful inputs from all the participants

#### 3) Presentations

Senior cancer specialist Prof. Dr. Bishnu Dutta Poudel, Bir Hospital, Prof. Dr. Bhagwan Koirala, Senior Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeon, MCVTC-TU, Teaching Hospital, Mr. Bihungum Bist, Research Officers, NHRC, Mr. Kunj Prasad Joshi, Director, NHEICC and Mr. Anand Bahadur Chand, Director, Action Nepal gave power point presentations highlighting the global and national NCD situations, their detrimental effects and suggestions necessary to cope up with NCD epidemic in the future.

#### 3.1 Prof. Dr. Bishnu Dutta Poudel, Senior Cancer Specialist, Bir Hospital

He highlighted that the victims of cancer are increasing over the year in Nepal. It kills more than 16000 people in Nepal annually which is around 60 percent of all deaths. Cancer not only takes the life of victims but also affects the economic situation of the family badly. He pointed out tobacco consumption is the main contributing factor that cause cancer around world. Hence, to curb cancer rate, tobacco consumption should be reduced, he opined. He also warned that if necessary precautions and activities were not carried out then this could further deteriorate the health of Nepalese people in the future.

# 3.2. Prof. Dr. Bhagwan Koirala, Senior Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeon, MCVTC-TU, Teaching Hospital.

He said that the increasing burden of NCD is threatening to overwhelm the already stretched Nepalese health services and Nepal too can improve mortality, morbidity and quality of life of Nepalese people that are being claimed by NCD. He compared the NCD in developed countries and the least developed countries like Nepal and pointed out that the burden of NCD to least developed countries is significantly higher than developed countries. Developed countries have already started preventive actions to control the NCD. Hence, it is rational for least developed countries to take necessary step as soon as possible to fight against NCD. NCD will be new epidemic in 10 to 15 years if we are not serious about it now.

#### 3.3 Mr. Bihungum Bist, Research Officers, NHRC

He presented the summary of findings of researches/surveys carried out by NHRC on NCDs. He informed that CoPD, Heart Disease, Diabetes and Cancer are the major NCDs prevalent in Nepal. CoPD was the most prevalent (11.7%) amongst the NCDs reported in the participants, followed by Diabetes (8.5%), CKD (6.0%) and CAD (2.9%). Population Based Cancer Registry in Kathmandu Valley is able to register 2153 new cancer cases and 648 death cases in 2018. Since a very large portion is suffering from these chronic diseases, an effective health promotion and chronic disease prevention program is a must, he urged.

#### 3.4. Mr. Kunj Prasad Joshi, Director, NHEICC

NCDs include the "big four" – cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory disease. According to WHO, NCDs were responsible for 71% of all deaths globally in 2016, with more than 80% occurring in developing countries, and were largely attributed to poor diet, insufficient physical activity, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol and stress, he presented. He also explained the policy initiatives to response NCDs epidemic are:

- National multi-sectoral action plan to prevention and control of NCD 2014-2020
- Health sector strategy implementation plan 2016-2021
- Public Health Act

- Health Promotion Strategy
- Healthy City Guideline

#### 3.5 Mr. Anand Bahadur Chand, Director, Action Nepal.

Premature deaths due to NCD is approximately double (around 61 percent) in low income countries compared to high income countries around (30 percent), he presented. He also pointed out that the major cause of NCD is tobacco products and its consumptions. Tobacco consumption should be controlled and it is only possible when government has will to do so. We have strong policies formulated in the field of tobacco consumption but implementation is important. He urged all the stakeholders to go for implementation of formulated laws and regulations to fight against the NCD.

#### 4) Discussion and Interaction

#### 4.1 Mr. Mahendra Prasad Shrestha, Chief-Health Co-operation Division, MoHP

NCDs are very painful diseases. Previously, communicable diseases were epidemic, but now situation is just opposite. Non communicable diseases are being more epidemic and taking lives of people than non-communicable diseases. Hence, serious concerns should be given towards the control of NCD, he opined. We have to change our life style, we should be more like vegetarian and salt consumption should be decrease, he suggested.

### 4.2. Mr Ramesh Kumar Pokharel, Chief Executive Officer, Health Insurance Board.

He admitted that the insurance against NCD is not sufficient. However, the insurance amount is sufficient if it is used for prevention of NCD. This amount can play big role to promote the health and prevent the NCDs.

#### 4.3. Dr. Jyoti Bhattarai, Endocrinologist, Diabetes & Metabolism

Youth are very prone to NCD as they adopt modern unhealthy life style. It works as a silent killer. Government should be responsible and should take immediate initiation against it in order to save the upcoming generation. She also urged to raise taxes not only in tobacco products but also in cold drinks and fast food items (specially sugary items).

#### 4.4 Honorable Ganesh Thagunna, Member of Parliament, NC.

Poor people suffer more from NCDs. On the other hand, people are losing their life at the early age and their family's economic status adversely dropping below poverty line. He urged government to focus primarily on health and allocate more budget to promote the healthy life style. People friendly health policy need to be formulate as soon as possible, he suggested.

#### 4.5. Mr. Khagraj Baral, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Population.

He blamed our life style and family culture behind this NCD epidemic. NCDs are spreading around the world due to poor eating habits. Pesticides mixed foods, fast foods, inactiveness, coca cola etc. are main reasons for NCD. We have to change our habits. We should go for physical works and exercises. Our poor food cultures should be avoided in order to prevent the NCDs, he suggested. He pointed out an urgent need to regulate alcohol, tobacco, SSB and strengthen primary health care

#### 5) Conclusion:

The program was lasted for 2.5 hours from 9 am to 11:30 am. The program was successful in achieving its objectives. All the participants have fruitful discussion and sharing. Some NCD related commitments were achieved from the concerned authorities. The need of changing life style, eating habits, exercise habits, formulations of new NCD related plans and policies, allocation of more budget on health, increasing limit of health insurance were major topics of discussion.

#### 6) Participants List

The program participated by over 50 persons including MPs, government authorities, law makers, media & civil society, health professionals, experts from Health Insurance participated in the program. The list of attendees is attached with it.

#### 6.1 MPs, Govt. and Non-Govt. Officials:

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## 6.2 <u>Health Media Journalists:</u>

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### 7) Media Coverage and Links

Journalists from different media houses were invited in the program. The list of news covered in different newspapers, online and T.V. is as below:

Published Online News: more than 8 Print News: 2 Natinal daily newspaper (Gorkhapatra and Rajdhani Dainik).

The link is attached.

7.1 Online published news:

 नसर्ने रोगको भार न्युनिकरण गर्न तत्कालै देशव्यापी कार्यक्रम अगाडि बढाउन सुझाव स्वास्थ्य खबरपत्रिका २०७६ भदौ २२ आइतबार १९:५५:०० प्रकाशित



See more at: https://www.swasthyakhabar.com/story/29115 2.

## अस्पतालबाट लाश निकाल्न धेरै पटक जमानी बसेको छु : सांसद ठगुन्ना

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See more at: https://www.healthaawaj.com/news/3633/

#### ु. दिनप्रतिदिन नसर्ने रोग बढ्दै

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## नसर्ने रोगबाट हुन्छ दैनिक ३३२ जना नेपालीको मृत्यु, नियन्त्रणको प्रयासमा के गर्दैछ सरकार ?

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## सर्ने रोगबाट जोगिन आनीबानी सुधार्न विज्ञहरूको सुझाव

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Read more at: http://thahakhabar.com/news/78870

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# नसर्ने रोगविरुद्ध लड्न 'एक्सन लिनुपर्ने' वेला आयाे

हेल्थ टिभी अनल<u>ाइन</u>



See more at: https://healthtvonline.com/health-news/2019/09/16380/ 7.

## नसर्ने रोगले महामारीको रुप लिन सक्छः विज्ञ

https://gorkhapatraonline.com/health/2019-09-08-1054

#### ... नसर्ने रोगबाट जोगिन आनीबानी सुधार्न सुझाव

हाम्रो डक्टर न्यूज समाचार



Source: https://www.hamrodoctornews.com/detail/13188

#### 7.2 <u>Newspapers print published news:</u>

1. Gorkhpatra Daily, Sept.09, 2019 2. Rajdhani daily Sept.09, 2019



## Few program clicks:





