



News Bulletin

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Mobile Medical Teams project strengthens local health structures



Started: February 2004
Regions: Lori, Gegharkunik, Tavush, Syunik
Beneficiaries: 36,000 people in 61 rural communities
Funded by: US Agency for International Development and World Vision United States (10%)
Partners: Scientific Association of Medical Students of Armenia (SAMSA) and Support to Communities (STC) NGO.

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Training for doctors and nurses

In May and June 2005, WV Armenia and SAMSA in cooperation with the Scientific Center of Drug and Medical Technology expertise organized training for district health care providers in Berd, Idjevan, Chambarak, Vardenis, Sisian, Kapan and Tashir.

Topics for the training had been chosen by regional health care providers and covered a wide range of issues including use of antibiotics, anti-fungal, anti-allergic drugs, drug interactions, modern approaches of the management of high blood pressure, pneumonia, urinary tract infections, diabetes etc.

Training of district polyclinic and hospital staff is an important part of the MMT program and aims at strengthening the patient referral system through increasing the capacity of district healthcare facilities.



"This training has changed my knowledge on health and nutrition. I hope people in our communities would listen to us and would start paying more attention to their own and their children's health."- Alla Avetyan, a ToT participant

In cooperation with the Armenian Association of Pediatrics one-week training on healthy child care was organized in Sisian on June 18-23. Ten district pediatricians and 10 pediatric nurses took part in the training that aimed to improve their basic skills and knowledge on monitoring of healthy child growth and development and early detection of health problems.

In May 2005 World Vision Armenia facilitated refresher courses for 62 rural nurses from MMT target villages. The training covered many practical aspects of basic nursing care, such as

administration of pharmaceuticals, measurement of blood pressure, pulse, breathing, temperature etc. The participants emphasized that the training was very useful and relevant to their everyday work.

Training of Trainers (ToT) for community volunteers

Training on healthy nutrition and food safety was carried out for community volunteers in Syunik and Tavush marzes. Another training on sick child care was conducted in the regions of Gegharkunik and Lori.. Nearly 200 peer educators, from local communities participated in the training sessions and will be supported to create a local pool of health knowledge that complements MMT visits.

Brochure on sick child care

World Vision Armenia developed and published 7000 copies of a brochure on sick child care. The brochure was approved by the Department of Mother and Child Health Care of the Ministry of Health.

Simple and easy to use, the brochure is designed to be used by parents and peer trainers and will be an important resource in supporting village nurses and health educators trained in the scope of the project.



The 28-page colored brochure provides parents with essential knowledge about basic symptoms and treatment of common diseases and giving first aid in case of fever, persistent cough, rash, burns etc. The publication also teaches them how to ensure proper care for a child at home or when and how to refer to a healthcare facility.