



## Fellowship in Neonatal and Child Health (FINCH 2017-18)



### **Background**

In any community, mothers and children are the majority group. In developing countries, they comprise approximately 71.14 per cent of the population. In India, children under 5 years of age constitute about 10 per cent of the total population which needs special care.

Globally, there were an estimated 6.3 million under-five deaths in 2013, equivalent to about 17,000 children dying each day and nearly half of these deaths occur during neonatal period. Amongst these, almost 80% deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. There is large disparity between countries, within countries, between high and low income group and between people living in rural and urban areas.

### **Neonatal and Child Health in India**

India contributes about 25% of the global under-5 deaths. Under-5 mortality rate of India was 53 per 1000 live birth in 2013. This rate varies from 15 in Kerala to 83 in Assam. Rural areas experience almost double under-5 mortalities in comparison to urban areas. Mortality rates in female is higher as compared to male.

## Indian Association of Preventive and Social medicine (IAPSM)

It is a National professional organization of specialists in Community Medicine/Preventive & Social Medicine/Public Health. It is dedicated to the promotion of public health by bringing its members' expertise to the development of public health policies, an advocate for education, research, and health programs. It has 4200+ members from across the India.

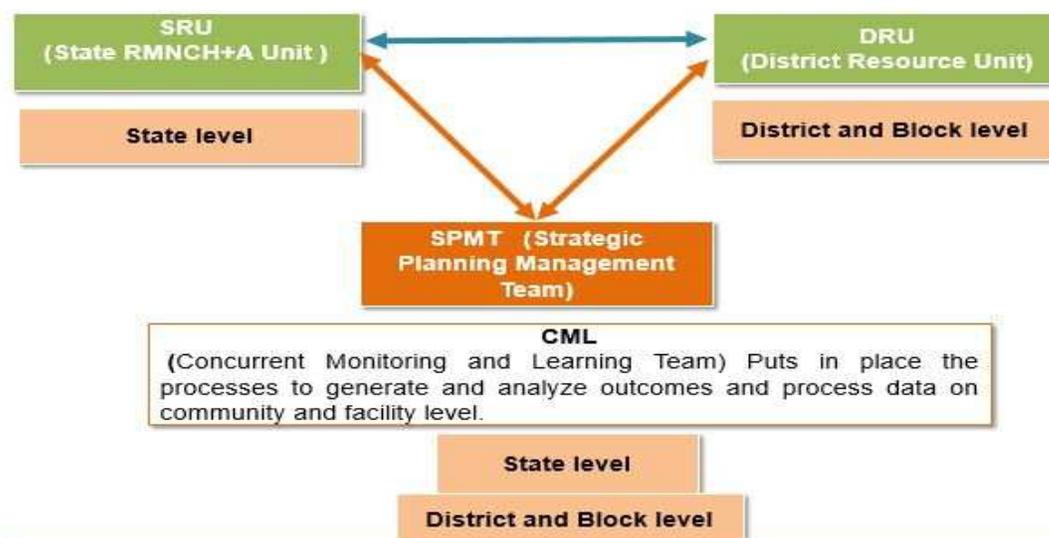
## Care-India

Care India is a part of the CARE International Confederation which is working in more than 90 countries around the world. Care India has been working in India for over 65 years, focusing on alleviating poverty and social injustice through well planned and comprehensive programs in health, education, livelihoods and disaster preparedness and response.

In healthcare, it works in close collaboration with State and Central Government and other partner organizations to secure accessible and quality maternal and child healthcare among marginalized communities. It works towards identifying the root causes of healthcare challenges, provide innovative solutions, and help implement secure and quality healthcare services in India.

## Neonatal and Child Health in Bihar

For improving the maternal and child health outcomes, CARE India with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), launched the Integrated Family Health Initiative (IFHI) project in 2011 in 8 districts of Bihar. The program was later scaled up to all the 38 districts of Bihar as Technical Support Unit (TSU) in 2014. The TSU provides catalytic to transform capabilities and behaviors, and build ownership to unlock the potential of both public and private sector providers to effectively improve quality and coverage of maternal and child health, family planning, and nutrition interventions. Its goal is to increase the coverage and quality of life-saving interventions and improve the health, survival and nutrition of women, newborns and children during the first 1,000 days - from conception to the child's second birthday.



## **Fellowship in Neonatal and Child Health**

IAPSM and Care-India have come together and partnered for initiating Fellowship Programs in Neonatal and Child Health with the goal of capacity building of a candidate by appointing him/her in Technical Support Unit (TSU), Bihar.

### **Goal**

The Fellowship Program is initiated with the aim to enhance and build skills and understanding of the candidate in Epidemiology of Neonatal & Child Health and its related services.

### **Activities under FINCH:**

Fellowship program is designed in such a way that the candidate has to be actively involved in the project and its related activities. Some of the key activities for the fellow is to:

1. Work closely with the field and technical teams of Bihar Technical Support Unit and identify and assess issues, gaps and challenges in neo-natal and child health
2. Suggest healthcare strategies for reducing neo-natal and child mortality rates in Bihar
3. Suggest effective ways to monitor and support frontline workers at facility and community levels to improve the neo-natal and child health outcomes
4. Suggest strategies to improve neo-natal and child health related indicators such as the rate of early initiation of breastfeeding
5. Suggest solution to take care of system level bottlenecks which are affecting the effective implementation of neo-natal and child health interventions
6. Carry out one project related to the neonatal or child health
7. Write up at least one research article or case study related to maternal and reproductive health service in rural area of Bihar.

### **During fellowship period, the candidate gets following benefits:**

1. Study the epidemiological situation of neonatal or child health in Bihar, and steps taken by government to improve it
2. Study the technical and operational interventions and strategies being employed by TSU
3. Understand critical barriers in providing health services at a community level
4. Learn training, monitoring and supporting supervision skills

### **Who are we looking for?**

We are looking for Doctors who are passionate to improve the status of Neo-natal and child health in India. He/she should have the ability to live and work in rural areas, and should willing to step out of their comfort zones.



**Duration:** 12 months

**No of seats :** One

**Who can apply?**

Candidate having **one** of the following qualifications:

1. MD (PSM/SPM)/MD(CM)
2. DPH/MPH after MBBS with one year of post PG experience
3. MD (Ped.)
4. D. Ped. with 1 year of post PG experience
5. MBBS with minimum 3 years of experience

**Location of the Fellowship:**

The Fellows will be primarily placed in rural areas of Bihar under Bihar Technical Support Unit of CARE India.

**Stipend:**

Selected candidate will receive fix stipend of Rs. 75,000/- per month to 80,000/-. This is not a salary but a stipend. Field travel and stay support will be provided by BTSP.

**How and Where to Apply?**

Interested candidate to mail their updated CV directly to “[hrb@careindia.org](mailto:hrb@careindia.org)” and copy to [academia.iapsm@gmail.com](mailto:academia.iapsm@gmail.com) with the subject line **Fellowship application from Indian Association of Preventive and Social medicine (IAPSM).**

**Last date of application : 31 May 2017**



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