

BEST PRACTICE - I:

NAME: THALLASSAEMIA ERADICATION CENTRE

OBJECTIVE: Thalassaemia is one of the most serious diseases which may cause serious effects on human life. A thalassaemia carrier, when married to another may lead to the birth of a thalassaemia affected individual.

Understanding the seriousness of the issue, the college thought it wise to detect thalassaemia carriers at the college free of cost for the students and staff and at a nominal cost for outsiders. Thus, the college approached the MPLAD for required funds and finally with the joint assistance from MPLAD and Barrackpore Municipality the college initiated the job of Thalassaemia carrier detection with the help of HPLC machine.

THE CONTEXT

Detection of thalassaemia at college level with the help of HPLC is perhaps the very first initiative in the state of West Bengal. Initially this practice of thalassaemia detection was made compulsory but considering certain social hindrances, it was carried out only for the interested students and staff. However, the college made regular initiatives hold seminars and talks to get people more and more aware about the need for thalassaemia awareness and thalassaemia carrier detection and to have a safer life for all.

Thus, with a view to help the society at large and to **create awareness about thalassaemia and its eradication**, Barrackpore Rastraguru Surendranath College came up with a plan to set up a *Thalassaemia Eradication Centre* in its college way back in 2008.

THE PRACTICE

With the noble objective, of making the society Thalassaemia free the college purchased and installed a Variant Hemoglobin Testing System (220V) on **29.4.2008**. The total cost of the said machine amounted to **Rs. 12,37,600**.

Soon after the installation of the machine (HPLC), the college authorities informed all stakeholders about the low cost thalassaemia detection / testing facilities at the college. However,

primarily the level of interest was less. So, the authorities decided to make the testing partially mandatory for the students. Thereafter, the college also collected samples from outside locations in order to extend the low cost testing benefits to the larger society.

This initiative on one hand helps college going students to gain idea about thalassaemia detection, eradication, thalassaemia carriers etc. and they in turn spread the message to the greater society. Thus, we aimed at creating a thalassaemia free world in our own way.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED

Primarily, the concept of Thalassaemia eradication was not common among the incumbents. Many students initially resisted being tested and feared the process. When the process was made mandatory, then few even reacted negatively. However, gradually they were motivated to get involved in the process.

Another problem that we faced with the HPLC machine was that during a certain point of time was that the testing kit for the old HPLC machine was no longer available. To counter this a new version of the Machine (Variant Beta Thalassaemia – BIO-RAD) was purchased.

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

Till date **total samples tested through this machine is 12,484 with the help of the old version of the machine and 35 with the help of the newer version of the machine, procured recently.** This mainly includes samples of college students. However, apart from college students, Thalassaemia detection tests were also carried out at **Barrackpore Girls High School, Mathpara Girls School, Kakinara Arya School, Nona Chandanpukur & Shyamnagar.**


Dr. Monojit Ray

Principal

Barrackpore Rastraguru Surendranath College

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BEST PRACTICE 2:

NAME: GREEN AUDIT – AN INITIATIVE FOR MORE GREENER CAMPUS LIFE

OBJECTIVE

The main objectives of the green audit are to promote the environment management and conservation in the college campus. The purpose of the audit is to identify, quantify, describe and prioritize framework of environment sustainability in compliance with the applicable regulations, policies and standards. The main objectives of carrying out green audit are

- To introduce and make aware students about real concerns of environment and its sustainability
- To secure the environment and cut down the threats posed to human health by analysing the pattern and extent of resource use in the campus
- To establish a baseline data to assess future sustainability by avoiding the interruptions in environment that are more difficult to handle and their corrections require high cost.
- To bring out a present status report on environmental compliance.

THE CONTEXT

Environmental auditing is essentially an environmental management tool for measuring the effects of certain activities on the environment against set criteria or standards. Depending on the types of standards and the focus of the audit, there are different types of environmental audit. Organisations of all kinds now recognise the importance of environmental matters and accept that their environmental performance will be scrutinised by a wide range of interested parties. Environmental auditing is used to investigate, understand and identify.

THE PRACTICE

In order to perform green audit, the methodology included different techniques such as physical inspection of the campuses, observation and review of the documentation, interviewing key

persons and data analysis, measurements and recommendations. The study covered the following area to summarise the present status of environment management in the campuses:

- Water quality assessment, consumption and management.
- Air quality assessment and management
- Electricity consumption and management
- Sound pollution monitoring
- Waste management
- Biodiversity status of the campus

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED

Green auditing is no doubt a huge documentation task which requires manpower as well as high-end instrument facility to collect year-wise or seasonal data. It is a continuous process to monitor the above-mentioned practices which involve spontaneous participation of teachers, non-teaching staffs, students, experts (for biodiversity status of the Campus) and use of few high-end instruments to measure air quality, water quality and sound pollution levels.

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

Green audit of the College Campus has been extremely instrumental in developing consciousness among teachers, non-teaching staffs and students about water quality, air quality, sound pollution level, waste management, electricity consumption and above all present biodiversity status of the College Campus area. This green report will help to recognize the importance of environmental issues and to act in sustainable way for greener campus life in near future.


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