“Activity of Health awareness and distribution of useful supplies, to protect health” to Varkaries

With the help of volunteers, Lakshya Trust completed the “Activity of Health awareness and distribution of useful supplies, to protect health” to Varkaries on 18/Jun/2023.

Reason for the activity: Every year, lakhs of people across the entire Maharashtra participate in “Pandhari Vari”. It is a good opportunity to promote and enhance health awareness among people during Vari. The possibility of the spread of air-borne (including TB) and water-borne infections is a major threat to the health system during Vari. Therefore, we thought to provide health education and to distribute materials to promote healthy practices to Varkaries.

Preparation:

1. The activity was planned on a non-working day, Sunday, 18/Jun/2023 at Nira, Tal. Purandar, Dist- Pune.
2. We identified volunteers who were ready to work at free-of-cost services.
3. TB disease awareness handbills (prepared by the public health department, PCMC) were collected from Mr. Munde (TBHV-Talera Hospital). The quantity was 1500.
4. Parle-G biscuits (quantity 96), Paper soap for hand-wash (quantity 100), large handkerchief to protect the head from Sun (quantity 72), packed mineral water bottles (Quantity – 500 ml X 48, 1 L X 12), banana (quantity 20 dozens) were purchased on 17/Jun/2023.
5. Disposable masks and samples of eye lubricant drops were obtained from different pharma companies.
6. Sputum sample containers and icepacks were kept ready to collect and transport the samples in regulated temperature, if collected from TB-suspects.
7. BP apparatus, stethoscope, weighing scale and other stationary material was kept ready in the mobile van

Execution:

The team left at 6.40 AM from Sassoon Hospitals, Pune by mobile van. The mobile van could not reach the planned destination due to traffic situation. The volunteers walked distance of 5 KM to reach the destination. We requested help from the local villagers to transfer the education and distribution materials on their motorcycles.

The TB disease awareness handbills were distributed to 1500 Varkaries. A special request was made to them to “Read and Pass on to read.”

All distribution material (mentioned above) was distributed to Varkaries. Limited supplies such as disposable masks might not have reached the neediest, but we hope that they will remind people about the essential protective measures that have saved lives during recent pandemic. We hope that every Varkari who visited our stall be messenger of health.

Baring few exceptions, the doctors could not physically examine patients due to rush. Though prepared, we could not perform health education activities such as street-play or health-talk.

This activity was completed between 11.00 am to 1.30 pm on 18/Jun/2023. The total expenditure for this activity was 6440 Rs including diesel for the van. Expenditure on food for volunteers was by themselves.