

Report on Early Warning Signs & Symptoms for Childhood Cancer Training

Venue: Hotel Heritage, Bhaktapur

Date: April 4, 2025

Organized by: Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital (Lead Organization)

Funded by: Amgen & World Child Cancer

Implementation Partner: Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust

Introduction

A one-day training program on “**Early Warning Signs and Symptoms of Childhood Cancer**” was successfully conducted on **April 4, 2025**, at **Hotel Heritage, Bhaktapur**. The event aimed to enhance the knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals in early detection and referral of childhood cancer cases, ultimately improving survival rates and reducing late-stage diagnoses.

The training was organized under the leadership of **Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital** in collaboration with **Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust**, with financial support from **Amgen** and **World Child Cancer**.

Participants

A total of **35 participants** attended the training, including:

- Doctors and nurses from **Bhaktapur and Kavrepalanchok (Kavre) districts**
- Representatives from **Primary Health Centers (PHCs), Private Hospitals, and Government Hospitals**
- Public health professionals and Nurses.

The participants were selected based on their involvement in pediatric care to ensure effective dissemination of knowledge in their respective workplaces.

S.N	Participant	S.No	Participant
1	Dr. Sumit Yadav	23	Dr. Santosh Manandhar
2	Saru Khayaji	24	Dr. Madhav Raj Karki
3	Dr. Anish Joshi	25	Dr.Nisha Rai
4	Dr. Krishna Dahal	26	Dr.Prinkal Vaidya
5	Renuka Ghole	27	Dr.Sajal Twanabasu

6	Kamla KC	28	Dr.Arjun Karki
7	Urusha Gainju	29	Dr.Laxmi KC
8	Deepak Achhami (DHO)	30	Raju Ram Tajale (CAO-BCH)
9	Dr. Mamita Lama	31	Dr.Satish Pokharel
10	Dr. Lila Awal	32	Dr.Sailesh Twanabasu
11	Dr. Nipun Shrestha	33	Dr.Neera Singh
12	Dr.Akhil Tamrakar	34	Era Karmacharya
13	Dr.Prajjwal Luitel	35	Geeta Kunuwar
14	Laxmi Devi Acharya	36	Dr. Shree Ram Prasad Shah
15	Sundarhari Shrestha	37	Dr. Bishownath Adhikari
16	Dr. Bikash Bashyal	38	Bishop Joshi
17	Dr. Arun Gupta	39	Dr. Ritu Lamichhane
18	Dr. Vijay Kumar Chikanbanjar	40	Dr. Sucharita Tuladhar
19	Surya Bahadur Shrestha		
20	Chandra		
21	Megh Nath Shrestha (DHO - head)		
22	Suresh Prasad Sayanju		

Chief Guests & Dignitaries

- **Chief Guest: Honorable Mayor of Bhaktapur Municipality Mr. Sunil Prajapati.**
- **Special Guest: Head of District Health Office (DHO), Kavrepalanchok**
- **Facilitators:**
 - **Dr. Ritu Lamichhane** (Pediatric Oncologist)
 - **Dr. Sucharita Tuladhar** (Oncology Specialist)

The dignitaries emphasized the importance of **early diagnosis** and **community awareness** in combating childhood cancer, highlighting the role of healthcare workers in timely referrals.

Training Sessions (7 Hours)

The training was divided into interactive sessions covering both **theoretical knowledge** and **case-based discussions**.

EWSS for 4th April, 2025

SCHEDULE

Time / session	DAY 1	Facilitator
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Registration Chairperson- chairing session/ das call DR..... Welcome speech Dr. 2 min Introductory of participants 10 min Remarks by Trainer, TWCC and DHO 2 each Closing of inauguration session by Chairperson 2 min Tea Break (10 min)	9 :00 TO 9:15 AM
9:45 – 10:00 AM	Introduction and overview of training	DR. RITU
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Basic concept of Cancer and Pediatric Oncology	DR. SUCHARITA
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Common cancer in children	DR. RITU
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	Childhood Cancer: Myths and Difference from adults	DR. SUCHARITA
12:15 – 1:00 PM	Early Warning Signs of Childhood Cancer -Fever, Bleeding, Limb pain/Body pain, Eye reflex, Neurologic symptoms (focal deficits), Abdominal lumps	DR. RITU
1:00 – 1:45 PM	Lunch	
1:45 – 2:30 PM	Suspicion of cancer in children: Presenting symptoms -Fever, Bleeding, Limb pain/Body pain, Eye reflex, Neurologic symptoms (focal deficits), Abdominal lumps	DR. SUCHARITA
2:30 – 3:15 PM	Management of suspected child with cancer -Overview of treatment and outcome Tea Break (10 min)	DR. RITU
3:15 – 4:00 PM	Oncology emergencies: Brief review TLS, Hematologic, SVC, etc.	DR. SUCHARITA
4:00 – 4:45 PM	Support systems for treatment -Government support/ Insurance/ Philanthropic supports/ Other	SAURAV
4:45 – 5:00 PM	Summary, Certificate distribution, End session	

Key Takeaways

- Childhood cancers are **often curable if detected early**, but delayed diagnosis remains a major challenge.
- **General physicians and nurses play a crucial role** in early suspicion and referral.
- **Public awareness campaigns** are needed to educate parents about warning signs.

Closing Ceremony & Feedback

- Participants received **certificates of participation**.
- Feedback forms indicated **high satisfaction**, with requests for **more hands-on workshops**.

Conclusion & Way Forward

The training successfully enhanced the capacity of local healthcare providers in recognizing early signs of childhood cancer. **Bhaktapur Cancer Hospital** and **Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust** plan to:

- Conduct **follow-up sessions** in rural PHCs.
- Develop **simplified referral guidelines** for healthcare workers.
- Advocate for **policy-level integration** of pediatric oncology in primary healthcare.

This initiative marks a significant step toward **reducing child mortality from cancer** in Bhaktapur and Kavre districts.





