

A Report on FCHV Training Program under Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust

Date: 8th September 2025

Venue: Premises of B.P. Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital (BPKMCH), Bharatpur

Duration: 4.5 hours (10:00 AM – 2:30 PM)

Organized by: Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust (RGMT)

In Collaboration with: B.P. Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital (BPKMCH) and World Child Cancer

1. Background

Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust (RGMT), in collaboration with World Child Cancer and B.P. Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital (BPKMCH), has been continuously working to improve the survival and quality of life of children with cancer in Nepal. As part of its community outreach and early detection initiative, the Trust organized a **training program for Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs)** from Bharatpur Metropolitan City.

The objective of the program was to enhance the knowledge and capacity of FCHVs in **identifying early signs and symptoms of childhood cancer**, improving community-level awareness, and facilitating timely referral of suspected cases to nearby health institutions.

2. Participants

A total of 55 Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) from seven wards of Bharatpur Metropolitan City actively participated in the training. The enthusiastic participation of FCHVs reflected their commitment to learning and contributing to the early detection of childhood cancer within their communities.

3. Inaugural Session

The program was inaugurated at 10:00 AM in the presence of distinguished guests and local authorities. The inaugural session was addressed by the Ward Chairperson, the Chairman of BPKMCH, and the Director of BPKMCH, who emphasized the importance of community engagement and early detection in improving childhood cancer outcomes.

The speakers appreciated the initiative of Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust for extending such an impactful community-level training and highlighted the critical role of FCHVs as the bridge between hospitals and the community.

4. Technical Sessions

The technical sessions were facilitated by experienced medical professionals and experts:

- **Dr. Krisha Sagar Sharma** – Pediatric Oncologist
- **Dr. Niva Tiwari** – Consultant Pediatrician
- **Ms. Prechan Thapaliya** – Nutritionist
- **Ms. Shristi Regmi** – Psychosocial Counselor

The sessions covered the following key topics:

- 1. Basic Understanding of Childhood Cancer**
 - Common types of childhood cancers in Nepal
 - Early warning signs and symptoms
- 2. Identification and Referral of Suspected Cases**
 - Role of FCHVs in early identification
 - Communication and coordination with health institutions
- 3. Parental Counseling and Addressing Myths**
 - How to convince and counsel parents of suspected cases
 - Addressing myths, stigma, and fear related to cancer
- 4. Nutrition and Psychosocial Support**
 - Importance of balanced nutrition for children undergoing treatment
 - Emotional support for families and patients
- 5. Overview of Ongoing Programs**
 - Introduction to the initiatives of Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust and World Child Cancer
 - Community engagement, awareness, and support mechanisms for childhood cancer

5. Methodology

The training adopted an interactive approach combining:

- Presentations and visual aids for better understanding
- Group discussions and question-answer sessions
- Real-life case examples to strengthen practical learning

Participants were also provided with training materials and informational brochures for future reference and dissemination within their communities.

6. Outcomes

The training proved to be highly informative and fruitful. At the end of the session, participants demonstrated improved understanding of:

- Early symptoms and warning signs of childhood cancer
- Effective communication techniques with parents
- The process of referral and coordination with hospitals
- Nutritional needs of children during treatment
- Dispelling myths and fears associated with cancer

Several FCHVs expressed their willingness to disseminate the knowledge gained to other community members and help in early detection and timely referral of suspected childhood cancer cases.

7. Conclusion

The FCHV Training Program at BPKMCH marked a significant step toward strengthening community-based awareness and early detection of childhood cancer in Nepal. The involvement of frontline community health workers ensures that knowledge and awareness reach the grassroots level, which is crucial for timely diagnosis and treatment.

Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust extends its sincere gratitude to BPKMCH, World Child Cancer, and the participating FCHVs for their active involvement and support. The Trust remains committed to organizing such capacity-building programs regularly to contribute to the national goal of improving childhood cancer outcomes in Nepal.



