

A Report on School Awareness Program

Date: 8th September 2025

Venue: Prembasti Secondary School, Bharatpur, Chitwan

Duration: 3 hours (3:00 PM – 6:00 PM)

Organized by: Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust (RGMT)

In Collaboration with: World Child Cancer & BPKMCH

1. Background

Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust, in collaboration with World Child Cancer & BPKMCH, has been consistently working to improve childhood cancer care and outcomes in Nepal. Alongside hospital based interventions, the Trust focuses on community and school-based awareness programs to promote early detection and reduce stigma related to cancer.

As part of this initiative, RGMT organized a School Awareness Program at Prembasti Secondary School, Bharatpur Metropolitan City, aiming to educate parents and guardians about the early signs and symptoms of childhood cancer and available support systems.

2. Participants

A total of 160 parents from Bharatpur Metropolitan City attended the awareness program. Their active participation demonstrated a strong interest and willingness to learn about health issues affecting children, especially cancer-related awareness, which remains limited at the community level.

3. Inaugural Session

The program commenced at 3:00 PM with the presence of the School Chairman and Principal, who warmly welcomed the resource persons and participants.

In their opening remarks, they emphasized the importance of parental awareness for early detection and timely treatment of childhood diseases, especially cancer. They expressed gratitude to Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust and World Child Cancer for choosing their school as a venue for such an impactful program.

4. Technical Sessions

The awareness sessions were facilitated by experienced health professionals and experts from B.P. Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital and Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust:

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

The resource team provided comprehensive information on the following topics:

1. Overview of Childhood Cancer
 - Understanding childhood cancer and its prevalence in Nepal
 - Common types and early symptoms parents should be aware of
2. Early Detection and Referral
 - Importance of recognizing warning signs early
 - When and where to seek medical advice
 - How coordination with hospitals and health workers can save lives
3. Available Support Systems
 - Overview of government schemes, hospital services, and non-profit organization support available for children diagnosed with cancer
 - Introduction to the role of Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust and World Child Cancer in providing treatment support and awareness
4. Nutrition and Psychosocial Care
 - Basic nutrition tips for children undergoing treatment
 - Addressing emotional and psychological challenges faced by families
5. Addressing Myths and Misconceptions
 - Discussion on common myths and fears surrounding cancer
 - Emphasis on the message that “Childhood cancer is curable if detected early and treated properly”.

5. Interaction and Discussion

The interactive session allowed parents to ask questions and share their concerns. Common queries included:

- Causes of childhood cancer
- Chances of recovery
- Treatment options and costs
- Availability of government and NGO assistance
- How to differentiate between general illness and early symptoms of cancer

Experts responded to all queries with empathy and clarity, encouraging parents to seek timely medical consultation and support from trusted institutions.

6. Outcomes

The awareness program proved to be highly for parents. By the end of the session, participants reported:

- Enhanced understanding of early symptoms of childhood cancer
- Awareness about available support services
- Reduced fear and stigma associated with the disease
- Willingness to share learned information within their communities

Several parents also appreciated the efforts of RGMT and expressed a desire for similar awareness programs in other schools.

7. Conclusion

The School Awareness Program at Prembasti Secondary School successfully achieved its goal of educating parents and caregivers about childhood cancer and empowering them to act as early identifiers and advocates for child health.

Ramesh Gupta Memorial Trust extends sincere thanks to the school management, World Child Cancer, and all participating parents for their active engagement and support. The Trust remains committed to continuing such awareness initiatives in schools and communities to ensure that no child with cancer goes undiagnosed or untreated in Nepal.





