

Name of Ext. Activity: Family adoption program

Date: 26th to 28th APR 2023

Total No. of Participants: 150

Organized By: Department of Community Medicine, KIMS & RC

Event Report:

In India, around 65.5 % of the population resides in rural areas. The availability of healthcare facilities and services is skewed towards urban areas. Despite adequate health care supply in the community, they are not able to access health care because of inadequate health literacy, ignorance about communicable and non-communicable diseases, means to reach health care facilities, etc. This will lead to a scenario of 'Scarcity in abundance'. Hence there is a need to take measures to make healthcare more accessible to the rural and needy population and impart community-based and community-oriented training to budding healthcare professionals. The family adoption program aims to provide an experiential learning opportunity to Indian Medical graduates towards community-based health care and thereby enhance equity in health. The objectives of this program are that during the Medical UG training program, the students will be able to :

1. Learn components and functioning of primary health care
2. Create health-related awareness within the community
3. Function as a first point of contact for any health issues within the community
4. Act as a conduit between the population and the relevant healthcare facility leading to improving access to healthcare
5. Generate and analyze related data for improving health outcomes and Evidence-based clinical practices.

Targets to be achieved by students:

First Professional Year:

1. Learning communication skills and inspiring confidence among families
2. Understand the dynamics of the rural set-up of your region
3. Screening programs and education about ongoing government-sponsored health-related programs
4. Learn to analyze the data collected from their families
5. Identify diseases/ ill-health/ malnutrition of allotted families and try to improve the standards

Second Professional Year

1. Inspire active participation of the community through families allotted
2. Continue active involvement to become the first doctor /reference point of the family by continued active interaction - Start compiling the outcome targets achieved

Third Professional Year

1. Analysis of their involvement and impact on existing socio-politico-economic dynamics in addition to improvement in health conditions
2. Final visit in the last months in advance of the examination schedule, to have the last round of active interaction with families

Vedanthangal is located in the Madhuranthagam taluk of the Chengalpattu District in the state of Tamil Nadu, India. It is easily reachable from Madhuranthagam and Chengalpattu. This place is 16 km from the college selected as a Family adoption program area for the Under Graduate batch of 2022.

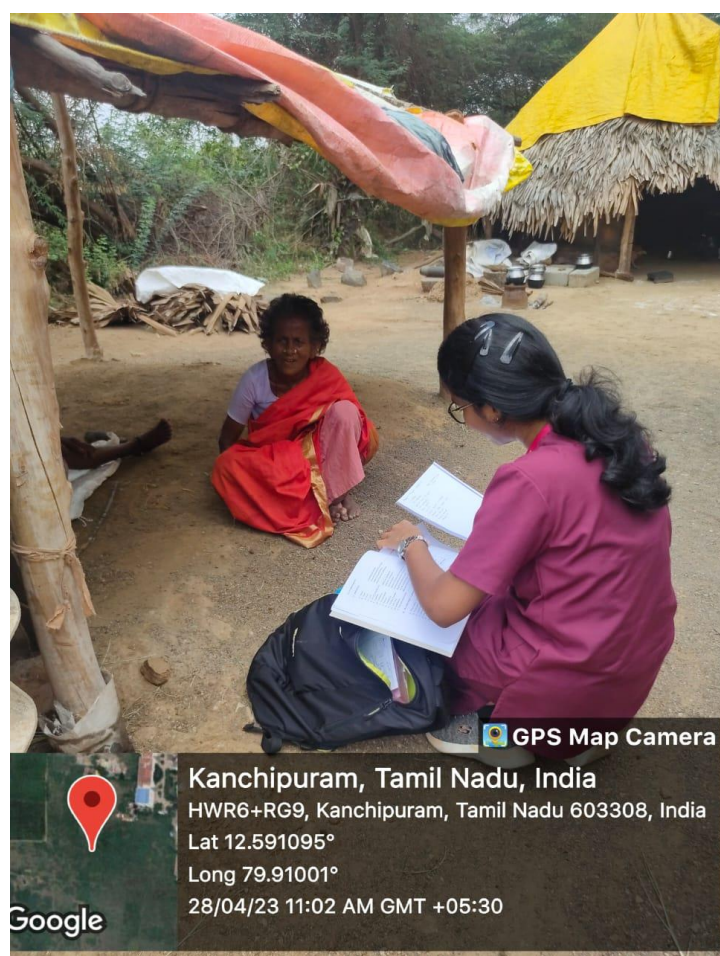
The area was surveyed by Medical Social Workers Mr. Dayanath and Mr. Anbu Sagayaraj for 2 weeks. The village panchayat leader was met and permission was obtained for a meeting between the leader and staff of the Department of Community Medicine, Karpaga Vinayaga Institute of Medical Sciences. A meeting was held with the Panchayat leader and Dr. Karthikeyan, Dr. Prasan Norman. The details of the program were explained and doubts were cleared. A Map of the locality was obtained from the panchayat office.



The panchayat has 1500 families with a population of 5000 in its 6 villages namely, Vinayaganallur, Vedanthangal, Chithathur, Chithrakulam, Valayaputhur and Thuraiyur. Out of the 1500 families, 750 families were selected. The Medical social workers with interns visited the households of the 750 families, spoke with the heads of the families, and obtained permission for the students to visit their families. A streetwise survey was done with the help of the interns to finalize the route and the families that would be covered by the first-year MBBS students during the visit. The same was explained to Dr. Karthikeyan and Dr. Prasan Norman a week before the visits.

The 2022 batch of MBBS students 150, were taken on a 3-day (26th, 27th, 28th of April 2023) visit to Vedanthangal, 50 students per day. Each student during their visit collected the demographic profile of their allotted families, took the history, and conducted a clinical examination of all family members.

Students interacting with families



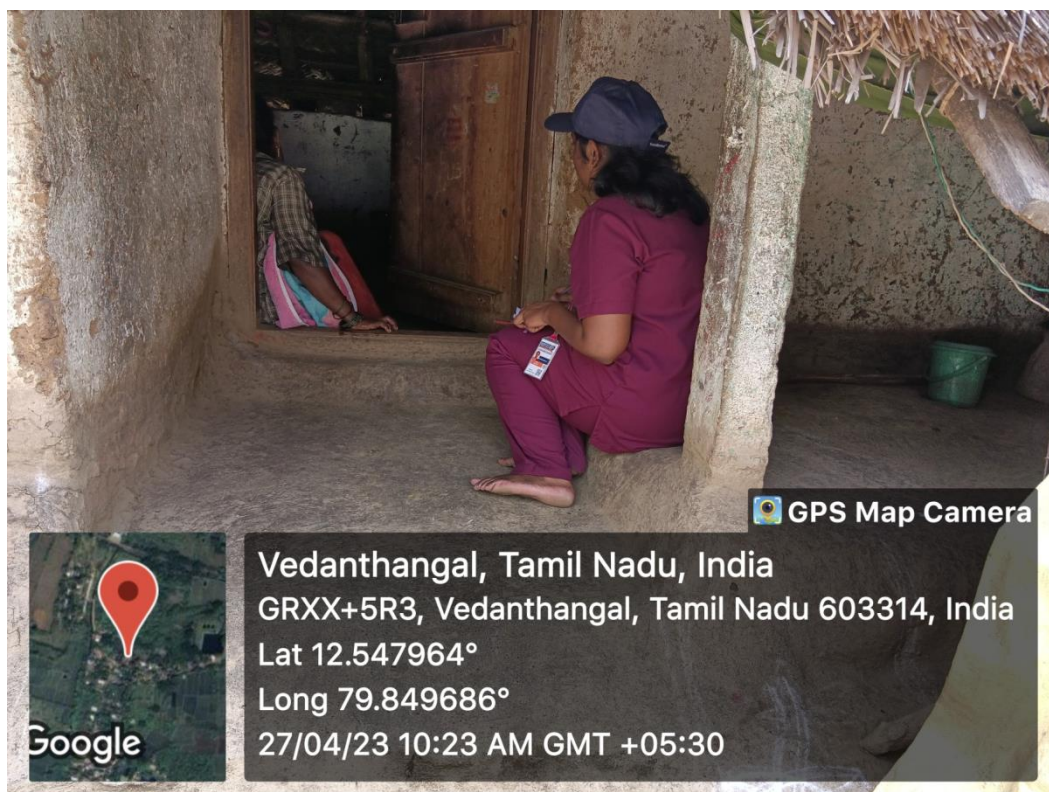
Interview with family members: Collecting Demographic details



Interaction with family head



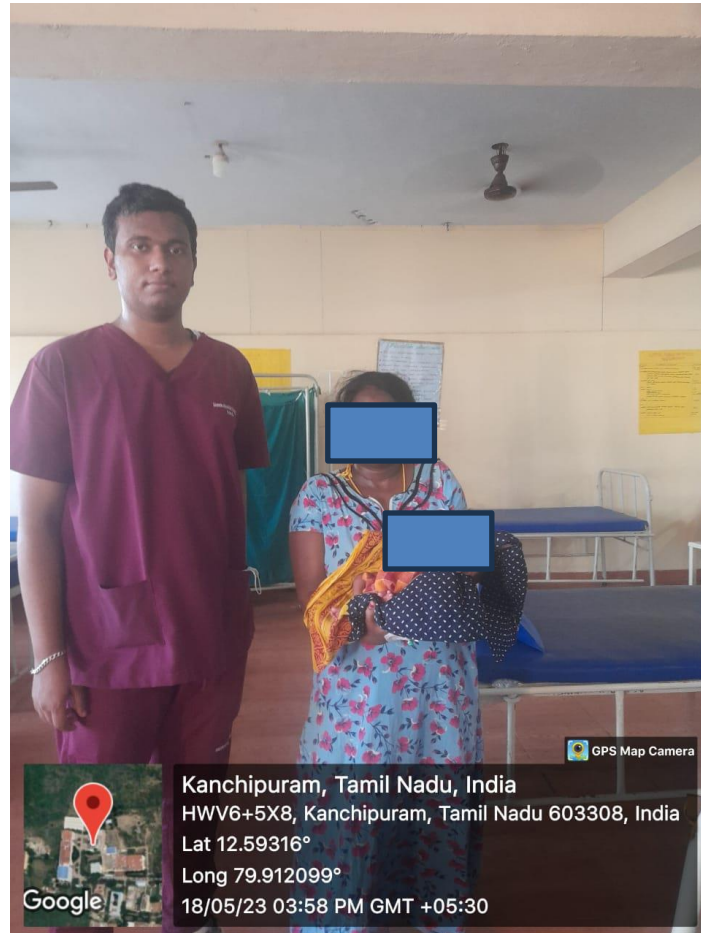
Inspecting the Living facilities available in house and analyzing its impact on health



The students are also expected to maintain communication and follow up on remedial measures with their allotted families. As a result of the above-mentioned criteria, two antenatal mothers from Vedanthangal visited Karpaga Vinayaga Institute of Medical Sciences and delivered a healthy female and male baby. The head of the above-mentioned families of Vedanthangal contacted the students to whom they were allotted and conveyed the message to the mentors.

The mentors spoke with the respective families and advised them to visit Karpaga Vinayaga Institute of Medical Sciences for consultation. When the residents got admitted the respective first-year students and the mentors visited them and followed up with the treatment.

Student visits to his allotted family in the hospital, when patient was admitted for delivery.



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