

Press release

**“NRHM scheme for adolescent health” through
medical colleges**

About one fifth of the world's population are adolescents, aged 10-19 years. The majority of adolescents live in developing countries. Adolescents are no longer children but not yet adults. Adolescents have different needs according to their stage of development and their personal circumstances. Some adolescents are especially vulnerable or hard to reach, and are in extra need of support.

Adolescents represent a positive force in society, now and for the future. They face dangers more complex than previous generations faced, and often with less support. The development needs of adolescents are a matter for the whole of civil society. Health services play a specific role in preventing health problems and responding to them. Many changes are needed in order for health services to become adolescent friendly.

Adolescent health in India

- 45% of adolescent girls under nourished
- 20% of adolescent boys under nourished
- Early marriage 26% < 15yrs - girls, 54% < 18yrs

- 20 – 30% adolescent boys sexually active
- 10% adolescent girls sexually active
- 59% adolescents know about condoms
- 49% adolescents know about contraceptives
- 4.5% drug abuse
- 50% of all HIV positive new infections are in the age group of 10 – 25yrs
- Adolescent abortion 1 – 4.4millions

To address the needs of the adolescents in Tamil Nadu, state health society, Tamil Nadu has taken the first step forward by implementing the “NRHM scheme for adolescent health” through medical colleges. This is one of the biggest programme on adolescent health in India and will be implemented through 14 medical colleges..

Adolescent Health Program

The goals of RCH II are reduction in MMR, IMR , NNMR and TFR. In order to achieve these goals, the RCH II has listed Adolescent health program as one of the strategies.

The strategy includes providing adolescent health services through existing health system involving the Medical colleges.

Service offered: A core package for adolescents consisting of Preventive, Promotive, Curative and Counseling services.

Focus of service: Adolescents who are defined as belonging to the age group of 10 years to 19 years of both sexes irrespective of their marital status.

Implementation plan at Medical College

- Formation of Adolescent Health Committee
- establishing a separate adolescent clinic in the medical colleges to cater to the needs of a large segment of population exclusively
- conduct outreach camps involving medical and nursing students who will be the peer leaders and counselors for the rural adolescents
- medical, laboratory, counseling and guidance services will be provided through these camps
- establishing a centre for studying adolescent issues

Total cost of the scheme

- **Rs. 3.25 crores**

வெளியீடு, இயக்குநர்
செய்தி, மக்கள் தொடர்புத் துறை,
தலைமைச் செயலகம், சென்னை-9.