

Sandhani International Eye Bank Project 2nd Quarter (1st June- 31st August, 2004)

Project Profile for Strengthening Eye Banking Capacity of SNEDS

Partner Names:

- Sandhani National Eye Donation Society
- ORBIS International

Project Name:

Strengthening Eye Banking Capacity of SNEDS

Project Duration:

March 2004 to February 2008.

Project Goal:

Reduce avoidable corneal blindness in Bangladesh.

Project Objectives (Outcome):

By the end of the project, restore or improve sight at least one thousand individuals.

INTRODUCTION:

We are continuing some activities of the preceding quarter. We know that this project is totally new and a lot of sensitization will be done to get eye from eye donation counseling. Our base hospital is Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Firstly, we try to establish our staff's identity to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. We determined our hospital based cornea retrieval program for all the quarters of 1st year in the project Orientation Program which was held on 10-12 th May, 2004 at Project Office. The details about the Hospital based cornea retrieval programs are mentioned in this report. Above all, the report gives the synopsis of what we have done and achieved in this quarter and at the same time will supply the information about our future plan and activities.

OUR ACTIVITIES:

In this Quarter we gave emphasis on Hospital Based program. According to the Orientation Program we have to arrange three programs in this 2nd Quarter. We have already arranged two programs and the 3rd one was not possible to be arranged because of the devastating flood. But we will arrange it soon. Most of the honorable doctors of DMCH Senior members of SNEDS and representative of ORBIS participated in our two programs. All these programs helped us to make a bridge between our staffs and the staffs of DMCH which is very important for our activities. Except the Hospital Based Program we made progress in getting coverage from the existing media. We are also continuing our activities in publishing educational materials which will be completed within a short period. We hope the materials will help us tremendously in making progress in our working areas. In this Quarter we sent one of our Eye Donation Counselors to LVPEI at Hyderabad for participating in one month long Eye Donation Counseling Training Program with the help of ORBIS International. From the training program, our counselor got the real life experience about eye donation counseling. Most of the Eye bank instruments have already been purchased in this quarter.

In this Quarter we worked in DMCH in three shifts. These three shifts covered whole day i,e 24 hours. We regularly made follow up of our activities at DMCH. We tried our best for fulfilling our target of Eye Ball Collection in this quarter. The collected Eye balls were immediately distributed to the renowned surgeons of our country for the grafting. Please see the Tables and Appendixes for the details.

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT:

THE REPORTING REPORT							
YEAR	Quarter (TICK AS INDICATOR)				DATE		
1 st year	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	DAY	MONTH	YEAR
	-	✓			05	09	2004

Appendix-1 (Table)

Appendix- 2 (Scenario of Eye Ball Collection)

Appendix- 3 (Scenario of Eye Collection and Grafting)

Hospital Based Program at DMCH

Program: A

Venue : Conference Room, Dhaka Medical College Hospital

Date : June 27, 2004

Dr. M.T.H. Siddiqui Jamal presided over the programme. After the recitation from the holy Quran, Mr. Saidur Rahman Khan, the Secretary General of SNEDS delivered his introductory speech.

The Project Director (PD) presented the project activities and the goal of the projects through a multi media presentation. In the presentation, the PD made it clear the reason for targeting DMCH. He explained the core reason was the higher death rate at DMCH. The Project Director also explained that the Eye Bank would not only collect cornea from claimed death bodies but also from the unclaimed ones. In this issue, he showed existing Tissue Grafting Law of Bangladesh. He also told that eye donation counselors of the Eye Bank are readily available for the counseling tasks at the DMCH. They would extend effective counseling to possible death patients and their relatives about eye donation.

Then Prof. Abul Kalam Azad of Sandhani explained the purpose of the Eye Bank and the details of its activities. At last he introduced the newly recruited Eye bank staffs to all present in the seminar. Thereafter, ORBIS Bangladesh Country Director Dr. Md. Khairul Islam, told in his speech that they were happy to contribute fund for such kind of challenging project. He also thanked all members of the SANDHANI for organizing the project.



Prof A.K Azad of SNEDS explains the purpose of Eye Bank

Then an open discussion started on the above topic on the request of Dr. M.T.H. Siddiqui Jamal.

Professor Dewan Mahmud, Eye surgeon of DMCH appreciated this programme and gave emphasis on the selection of good patients for getting the best results after eye grafting. He also told not to delay in distributing eyeballs after collection.

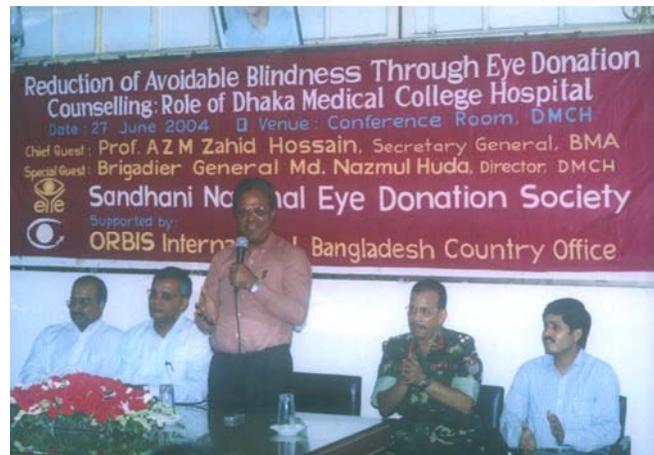
Professor Muktadir of DMCH expressed his experience of eye grafting. He told that in his professional life he could graft only 10-12 eyes because of the lack of eyeballs. He also said that he was not aware of the activities of the eye donation counselor at DMCH round the clock. He firmly displayed his positive attitude about the programme for reduction of corneal blindness in Bangladesh. At the end, he assured full support of his department for the programme.

Professor of Neuro-Surgery of DMCH, Dr. Safiqur Rahman expressed his concern for the programme. He told to give more importance to ICU and other wards along with Neuro Surgery. In his opinion, it would be possible to collect more corneas, if effective approach could be made to the serious patients and their relatives.

Director of DMCH, Brigadier General Md. Nazmul Huda thanked all members of the Sandhani and all attendance for participating in the programme. He assured all administrative support would be provided according to our need. He also requested the Matron and other doctors of DMCH to ensure all kinds of help to Sandhani International Eye Bank for successfully running the programme.

Professor A Z M Zahid Hossain, Secretary General of BMA, told that they would always support the programme. He emphasized on the media coverage for increasing public awareness about eye donation. In his opinion, not much awareness program had been done in this field so far. He also explained the increasing value of media in today's world and requested us to intensify our media coverage.

At last Prof. C. H. Kabir, President of SNEDS thanked all to participants and announced the closing of the session.



President of SNEDS addressing in the closing session

Feedback of the Programme:

- ❖ The session was very effective in generating interests amongst the doctors of the DMCH.
- ❖ The session could effectively gain the support of all concerned for our ultimate goal.
- ❖ The session could also infuse confidence amongst the doctors of the DMCH about the programme.

Then Mrs. Tahamina Banu informed the house about ORBIS and its operation. She also spoke about the partnership of ORBIS with Sandhani. She told that ORBIS can only train the eye bank personnel and doctors for the establishment of better eye bank, but nurses here could do the vital work.



Mrs Tahamin Banu explaining the ORBIS's contribution in this project

Mrs. Dip Shikha D. Costa then expressed her feelings as an eye-donor. She also informed the house that her husband also donated eyes and a person regained the eyesight with her husband's eyes by eye-grafting.

The special guest Brig. General Md. Nazmul Huda, Director of DMCH started his speech by emphasizing the communication matter with an example. He told that it would be very easy to spread the information with the help of media and communication. So, he requested the nurses to spread the information, He told that a nurse always remains close to the patient. For this reason, only the nurses could make better motivation. He spoke about some of the techniques regarding this. He told that the relatives of the deceased could be motivated from earlier. He requested all to participate in the eye-donation program by considering it as "Sadga- E- Zaria". He praised the day by day progress of the activities of Sandhani. He ended his speech by expecting everyone's help.

Prof. C.H Kabir, President of SNEDS started his speech by expressing his thanks to all. He told that he first joined DMCH as a doctor. He spoke about the history of Sandhani. He conveyed his thanks to DMCH authority for allocating rooms to Sandhani. He mentioned that HCRP is an unfathomable work. He said that the difficult task would not remain difficult if the willpower would be there. He informed all the participants about the rules and regulations of Sandhani. He said by quoting the example of L.V Prasad Hospital that the will power and the desire are enough to do the welfare to the people. He thanked Mrs. D. Costa and requested everyone to participate in restoring the light of the eye with the light of eye. He finished his speech by conveying his thanks to all.

Feedback of the Program:

- The session was very effective in generating interests amongst the Nurse of the DMCH.
- The session could effectively gain the support of all concerned for our ultimate goal.

- The session could also infuse confidence amongst the Nurse of the DMCH about the programme.
- This type of seminars should be organized at a regular basic.
- The seminar also could identify one of the major weaknesses of the programme i.e. media coverage.
- The scission was effective in bridging the gap between the Nurses and Eye Bank Staffs.

STAFF TRAINING :

In this quarter of the project, Ms. Shameema Rahman, Eye Donation Counselor of Sandhani International Eye Bank, was sent to L.V.Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) for participating in the "Eye Donation Counseling Training Program". She stayed there for a month from 1st June to 30th June, 2004. Mrs. Shameema Rahman's visit to LVPEI was a remarkable achievement of the project. Her observations and experiences are summarized briefly in following points:

- At the beginning of the program, Ms. Shameema came to know about the objectives and the curriculum of the training from the speech of Ms. Usha Gopinathan Ph.D, Technical and Scientific Director of RIEB, LVPEI. The training curriculum include the following:
 1. Observation of Eye Banking activities- One Week
 2. Visit to different hospitals at Hyderabad- Rest Three weeks

In her observation and participation of the activities of LVPEI, she came to know about the following:

- Pros and cons of Eye donation counseling procedures involving the wide coverage of the hospitals for cornea collection.
- She observed the Indian culture and got valuable lesson from Hospital Cornea Retrieval Program (HCRP) of the hospital.
- She was sent to different hospital during her training period. Her visited hospitals are: Nizam's Institute of Medial School, Osmania General Hospital, CARE (Banjara) Hospital.

She observed and participated in the counseling procedures of eye donation of LVPEI in those hospitals.

- She observed the action and drills involved in the cornea collection process after receiving information/consent from the donor and relatives.
- Except these, she also assisted the technician in collecting cornea. She learnt about the recording procedure of cornea collection.
- She made observation of the screening procedure of Donor's blood for HIV, HBsAg and VDRL. She learnt about the Cornea Scleral rim excision process.

- She paid a visit to Mr. G. Ganesh, Asst. Executive, Director, Eye Association of India, on June 28, 2004.

CASE STUDY OF EYE DONATION COUNSELING AT DMCH:

In this quarter our eye donation counselors approached a good number of people for eye donation. The task is not easy in the environment where people know a little about it. But our counselors are still trying their level best to get success from the Grief Counseling. At DMCH our counselors get different people from different classes of the society. In working with these people they get real life ideas about these classes of people. At the same time they minutely observed the reasons which generally come forward as obstacles in the mind of the deceased's attendance in donating the eyes of their beloved. Here is such a case where the psychology of the attendance of the patient was closely observed:

Case: 1

Our counselor found a patient named Raju Rani, Age: 40, Sex: Female, Address- 14, Sweeper Colony, Hazaribag, Dhaka, at DMCH on the 24th August, 2004. The patient died from ALVE & CUD. At the time of her death, she was attended by her brother named Mr. Razen Babu. As the part of the duty, our counselor approached the deceased's brother for the cornea. But the man in reply told that he could not take the decision alone because the deceased left four daughters.

According to him it will be injustice to those girls if he would take the decision of eye donation. As a result our counselor failed to collect the eyes of the patient. From the case story of the patient it is found that the financial condition of the patient was not well and her brother is an illiterate person. He serves as a cleaner in the Ministry of Planning of Bangladesh.



Ms Shameema (Eye Donation Counselor) approached the deceased's family and brother.

It can easily be assumed that because of being illiterate the person could not realize the importance of eye donation. At the same time the poverty restrained him from thinking broadly. This case definitely gives us some indication of the socio-economic condition of the poor people of our country. In general the fragile economic condition and the poor educational status of the underprivileged people of our country do not allow them in taking such wide-ranging decision of eye donation. So, the emphasis should be given on motivating these people for eye donation.

CASE HISTORY OF EYE GRAFTING

Case-1

World becomes beautiful for Asma again

Patient's Name Asma Khatun
Age 11 Years
Occupation Student
Father's Name Shah Alam
Address 68/1, Purana Mogaltuli



Enlighten world of Asma

History:

Asma khatun is a lovely girl of eleven years old. Asma's parents have two sons and a daughter. Asma is the eldest of all. Her parents were very happy with their children. But one day an accident occurred in the house of Asma's uncle when Asma was only five years old. There Asma was hurt by a knife in her right eyes. No sooner had her parents washed her eyes with water. But she felt pain and irritation in her eye. After some days her eye got swollen and she could not open her eye. Then she was taken to Dr. Mozaffar Hossain. The physician gave her some drops and advised her to make an operation in her eye. So, she was admitted in Islamia Eye Hospital, Dhaka for better management. She was in Islamia Eye Hospital for seven days. Then she was admitted in BSMMU. Here Doctor had done the operation in her eye. After the operation the patient could hardly see and gradually she lost her vision. Her parents were anxious about her. At last they went to Islamia Eye Hospital. The doctor examined her thoroughly and advised her parents to change her cornea. The parents came to SIEB. Sandhani International Eye bank gave her a good and fresh cornea. Dr.Syed.A. Hasan, cornea specialist, grafted the cornea in the right eye of Asma at Islamia Eye Hospital successfully. Now, she can see everything well. Asma remembered her hard days of blindness and told that "the days were like the dooms day for me. Everyone looked at me with sympathy. Then the world was full of darkness." Now Asma can see the every beauty of the universe with her both eyes. She is now dreaming to be a successful human being in future.

Case-2

Dark days are over

Patient's Name Mrs. Kamrunnesa
Age 65 Years
Occupation House Wife
Husband's Name Late Syed Golam Mowla
Present Address 585/1 Nayatola,
 Magbazar, Dhaka-1217



Picture of Mrs. Kamrunnesa

History:

The Patient first got problem in the vision of the right eye in the year 1999. At that time she suffered from poor eye sight. For the treatment she went to "Kotery Hospital" of India. The doctors at that hospital did ECCE C Pc lot in her eye. But two years after the operation she again felt pain in her operated eye. Then she went to Dr. Rafiqur Rahman of Islamia Eye Hospital for the treatment. Dr. Rafiqur Rahman at that time found that the patient's lens was not in the right place and he advised her to remove her lens. The patient agreed and thereafter the doctor removed the lens. But the patient again found itching and pain in her eyes. Then the Doctor advised her to make a pledge to "Sandhani International Eye Bank" for cornea as the cornea replacement became necessary to restore the eye-sight of the patient. After making a pledge for cornea, the patient got a fresh cornea from SIEB. Then the cornea was placed in her eyes by Dr. Sharier Hasan at Islamia Eye Hospital on 15th July, 2004. Now she feels better than ever before as she can see everything well. At the time of her blindness, Kamrunnesa thought that she would die without seeing her beloved fully. But now she can see everything. The dark days of blindness were eliminated from her life.

Project Profile for Strengthening Eye Banking Capacity of SNEDS

A. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION WORKS HAVE DONE IN THE 2ND QUARTER

1.0 OFFICE EQUIPMENT

1.1 Current Status

- Slit Lamp - One
- Refrigerator – One
- Computer accessories – One
- Telephone Set- One

1.2 Objectives for the Next Quarter

Most of the furniture and Medical equipments were purchased. We will purchase Specular Microscope and linen supplies within 3rd quarter of 1st Year.

2.0 RECRUITMENT OF STAFF

2.1 Current Status

Eye Bank Staff- Eight

One Eye Donation Counselor has resigned this Quarter. We will appoint a Counselor in the vacant position soon.

2.2 Objectives for the Next Quarter

Consultant Ophthalmologist- One

Eye Donation Counselor-One

B. STAFF TRAINING

3.1 Current Status

- Eye Donation Counselor (Ms. Shammema Rahman) has done Grief Counseling course for one month (1st-30th June, 2004) at LVEI, Hyderabad, India.
- Eye Bank Technician, Eye Bank Technician course for 3 months (01 Sep-30 November, 2004) at LVEI, Hyderabad, India.

3.2 Objectives for the Next Quarter

- Consultant Ophthalmologist will do Observership Program at LVPEI after being recruited. Rest of the staffs will receive necessary training accordingly.

4.0 EYE COLLECTION

4.1 Current Status

Eye ball collection -42

4.2 Objectives for the Next Quarter

Eye ball-39

5.0 EYE DISTRIBUTION AND GRAFTING

5.1 Current Status

- Eye ball distribution - 42
- Rejection of Eye ball - 3
- Cornea Grafting - 39

5.2 Objectives for the Next Quarter

Distribute good quality eye balls on the basis of eye ball collection

The End

