







Capacity building of healthcare professionals to create a workforce trained in tobacco dependence treatment at different levels of healthcare settings in Maharashtra, India

Pfizer Independent Grants for Learning and Change

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- LifeFirst, a tobacco dependence treatment service is a joint venture of Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation along with their co-partners Salaam Bombay Foundation and Mind Temple.
- **Goal:** To build a team of competent healthcare professionals with skills to provide evidence-based tobacco dependence treatment in a variety of healthcare settings across Maharashtra, India.
- Training modules developed in collaboration with the Dana Farber / Harvard Cancer Centre, Boston, USA.
- Level 1 training (One-day)
 - Brief Advice Training (5 As and 5 Rs)
- Level 2 training (Two-days)
 - Tobacco Treatment Counselor Training
 - Nicotine Replacement therapy, Motivational Interviewing and Behavioural Modification
- Online training module Being finalised

Trainings were offered to healthcare professionals from

- Public hospitals
- Private hospitals
- Medical schools
- Dental schools
- Government primary healthcare centres
- NGOs
- Private medical practitioners

Level 1 trainings – 75 batches – 2866 HCPs Level 2 trainings – 32 batches – 610 HCPs

50% of these were nurses, 20% medical and dental students, 12% dentists, 5% physicians.

The HCPs who attended the trainings included:

- Doctors includes MBBS, BAMS, BHMS, Post-graduate specialists
- Dentists
- Medical students includes interns and final year students
- Nursing staff
- Physiotherapist, Dietician, Pharmacists
- Psychologist, Medical Social Worker,
 Counsellor
- DOTS providers working with the National Tuberculosis Programme
- Outreach Social Workers from NGOs working in the field of health
- Voluntary social workers

- Average knowledge scores increased by 40%.
- Proportion of HCPs who perceived their skills to practice 5As as very good and excellent increased by 75%
- Confidence of HCPs to motivate patients to quit tobacco use doubled.



Impact: Tobacco cessation centres have been started in 1 private hospital, 5 dental schools with hospitals and several private practitioners (dentists and doctors) have started providing brief advice as a part of their routine care. Integrated as induction training in a private hospital.















