Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Appropriate local community level healthcare intervention is a prerequisite to achieve ‘Health for All’ in India. Explain.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2018	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Primary healthcare; community participation; preventive care; ASHA workers; maternal and child health; local disease surveillance; health equity; decentralised delivery

Model Answer

Introduction

‘Health for All’ requires accessible, affordable and equitable healthcare. Community-level interventions bring preventive and primary healthcare closer to people, particularly in rural, remote and underserved areas.

Importance of Local Community-Level Intervention

1. **Early detection:** Community health workers identify illness, malnutrition and high-risk pregnancies at an early stage.
2. **Preventive healthcare:** Immunisation, sanitation awareness, nutrition counselling and screening reduce disease burdens.
3. **Maternal and child health:** Local outreach improves antenatal care, institutional deliveries and child immunisation.
4. **Trust and accessibility:** Community participation helps overcome geographical, cultural and informational barriers.
5. **Disease surveillance:** Local reporting supports early detection of outbreaks and timely public-health responses.

6. **Continuity of care:** Follow-up for chronic diseases, medication adherence and rehabilitation becomes easier.
7. **Equity:** Targeted outreach can address the needs of women, children, older persons and marginalised communities.

Measures for Effective Implementation

Strengthen Health and Wellness Centres and primary health facilities, adequately train and support ASHA workers, ensure essential medicines and diagnostics, use telemedicine where suitable, and involve Panchayats and community health committees in monitoring.

Conclusion

Community-level healthcare is the foundation of a resilient health system. Integrating preventive services, local participation and adequately funded primary care is essential for achieving ‘Health for All’.

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