

Press releases

WHO supports training on childhood illness and malnutrition

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World Health Organization in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health is training 78 doctors and nurses from the north, northeast and central provinces of Afghanistan on the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) and 20 doctors from central and southeast provinces on the Case Management of Severe Malnutrition in a Hospital Setting.

Most of the training is being conducted in Kabul in order to provide clinical practice with the experienced doctors and facilities available at Indira Ghandi Hospital and Bibi Manru Clinic. IMCI training for 30 doctors and nurses from Daykundi and surrounding areas took place from 8-19 October while 30 doctors and nurses from Kunduz and Badakhshan will be trained from 5-16 November 2006. Eighteen doctors and nurses from Sarepul Province were trained starting 28 October at the Balkh Provincial Health Directorate (PHD) in Mazarisharif.

Twenty doctors from Kapisa, Parwan, Panjshir, Khost and Ghazni will participate in another course on Case Management of Severe Malnutrition in Hospital Setting. This course is also taught by a combination of theoretical and “hands-on” training in the pediatric centers in Kabul.

IMCI training addresses the five childhood killer diseases – pneumonia, diarrhea, measles, malaria, and malnutrition – with a combination of interventions including holistic approach to examination of the child, interaction with the parents, supporting public health measures such as vaccination, nutrition and hygiene, and appropriate case management in the hospital or outpatient setting. IMCI program has been developed jointly by international and UN organizations and is shown by scientists to be the most cost-effective method available to reduce childhood mortality.