

**Reorientation for ASHA Facilitators on Infant and Young Child Feeding
At Yenepoya Medical College Deralakatte**

Press Report

The Department of Community Medicine in association with the Departments of Hospital Administration, Paediatrics and Medical Social Work, Yenepoya Medical College Hospital, Yenepoya University, Deralakatte conducted a **Reorientation for ASHA Facilitators on Infant and Young Child Feeding** on 17/08/2015.

The workshop witnessed an intense participation from 50 ASHA facilitators from various parts of Dakshina Kannada District. Dr. Abhay S Nirgude, Professor and Head, Department of Community Medicine, Yenepoya Medical College welcomed the gathering. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Ramakrishna Rao, District Health Officer, Dakshina Kannada District. He addressed the gathering and spoke about the significant role played by ASHA workers to reduce the overall mortality and morbidity during infancy and early childhood in the District. Dr. Rukmini M, Reproductive and Child Health Officer emphasized the importance of conducting such reorientation programmes on a periodic basis and empowering the ASHA workers. Dr. CV Raghuvver, Registrar, Yenepoya University gave a brief overview of the sessions and urged the participants to make best use of the programme. Dr. Muhammed Amin Wani, Chief Operating Officer, Yenepoya Medical College Hospital, addressed the gathering and explained how the term ASHA which stands for Accredited Social Health Activist was coined.

The participants were reoriented on the pertinent aspects associated with infant feeding practices like Exclusive Breastfeeding, Kangaroo Mother Care, Complementary Feeding and Craniofacial Anomalies that may hamper Infant Feeding by Dr. Akkatai S Telli, Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics, Dr. Akshaya KM, Associate Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Dr. Pracheth R, Assistant Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Yenepoya Medical College and Dr. Mustafa K, Professor, Department of Craniofacial Surgery, Yenepoya Dental College respectively. Later, Dr. Mohammed Guthigar, Head of the Department, Medical Social Work, Yenepoya Medical College Hospital sensitized the participants on the services delivered by Yenepoya Medical College Hospital, Deralakatte and proposed the vote of thanks.

