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Child Health Services and National Programmes

Child Health Nursing

Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI), Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP), child health services, school health services and other relevant national programmes.

For educational purposes only.

CHAPTER 24 / CHILD HEALTH NURSING 24. Child Health Services and National Programmes

1. India's child health continuum

NHM RMNCAH+N (reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, adolescent health and nutrition) connects antenatal, delivery, newborn, child and adolescent services. Care moves from community/Arogya Mandir/PHC to secondary and tertiary facilities depending acuity. ASHA, ANM, CHO, nurse and medical officer coordinate follow-up and referrals.

2. Key programmes

Programme	Objective and nursing role
IMNCI / F-IMNCI	Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness and facility adaptation; assess danger signs, classify, treat/refer, counsel and follow-up using current charts.
RBSK / RBSK 2.0	Screen children for 4 Ds: defects at birth, deficiencies, diseases and developmental delays including disabilities; refer DEIC and follow up.
UIP / Mission Indradhanush	Routine immunization and outreach to missed beneficiaries; maintain due lists, cold chain, AEFI reporting.
SSBSK home-based services	NHM unified HBNC and HBYC into birth-to-three-year home-based care; structured follow-up, risk identification, nutrition/development and referral.
Facility-based newborn care	NBCC at delivery points, NBSU for stabilization, SNCU for small/sick newborns; MNCU supports mother-newborn care.
Nutrition services	Anganwadi/POSHAN interventions, nutrition rehabilitation and growth monitoring; counsel and refer severe malnutrition.
School health / PM POSHAN	Screening/health promotion and eligible school meals; coordinate teachers and community teams.
RKSK	Adolescent health, nutrition, mental and reproductive health and life skills services.

3. IMNCI clinical workflow

Assess general danger signs first (unable to drink/breastfeed, vomiting everything, convulsions, lethargy/unconsciousness in relevant age group). Assess cough/difficult breathing, diarrhoea, fever, ear problems, nutrition, anaemia and immunization. Young infants have separate signs/classifications. Classify severity using chart; pink urgent referral/admission, yellow specific treatment/counselling, green home care advice in commonly taught charts. Provide pre-referral care as authorized and ensure transport and feedback.

4. Nursing responsibilities

Maintain immunization records, growth charts, screening and referral registers, monitor coverage and missed visits, educate caregivers, support high-risk newborn follow-up and confidentiality. Verify current national and state implementation changes rather than relying on outdated textbook lists.

5. Important Examination Questions

Long Answer Questions

1. 1. Explain IMNCI and RBSK with nursing roles.

Short Answer Questions

1. 1. Describe SNCU and NBSU
2. 2. discuss UIP
3. 3. list four Ds.

Very Short Answer Questions (with answers)

1. 1. What is SNCU? - Special Newborn Care Unit.
2. 2. What does RBSK screen for? - Four Ds.

6. Quick Revision

- Use age-specific IMNCI charts.
- Screening needs referral and completion.
- Programmes connect facility and community care.

7. Conclusion

Use age-specific IMNCI charts. Screening needs referral and completion. Programmes connect facility and community care.

Practice questions

Choose one best answer. The answer key and explanations follow the questions.

1. Which set of concerns is included in RBSK screening?

A. Only vaccine-preventable infections
B. Birth defects, deficiencies, diseases and developmental delays
C. Only acute respiratory infections
D. Only adolescent reproductive disorders

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2. In commonly taught IMNCI charts, what does a pink classification indicate?

A. Home care advice alone

B. Routine school screening only

C. Urgent referral or admission

D. Specific treatment without urgent referral

3. Which unit is specifically identified for newborn stabilization in the facility-based care continuum?

A. NBCC

B. SNCU

C. MNCU

D. NBSU

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Answer key and explanations

1. B - Birth defects, deficiencies, diseases and developmental delays

RBSK screens for the four Ds, including developmental delays and disabilities.

2. C - Urgent referral or admission

Pink indicates urgent referral or admission.

3. D - NBSU

The NBSU provides newborn stabilization within facility-based newborn care.

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