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Proposed universal reporting system for sub-syndromal and sub-threshold ebd [emotional/educational, behavioral & developmental] problems in children

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Emotional/Educational, Behavioral and Developmental [EBD] problems including Dyslexia, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) constitutes 20% of children suffering globally, often unnecessarily. A sizable number of such children are passing through the hands of nurses in healthcare set ups, both in-patient and out-patients (including community and immunization clinics).

Missed opportunities of reporting EBD concerns must be one of the important determinant of such morbidity. Current author proposed a universal model during Nursing 2014 at Chicago on how a nurse can improve vastly up on the knowledge and professional input so that the “miss outs” are minimized to enable Early Detection and Early Intervention. An output of that presentation is a model of universal reporting developed as a proposal in healthcare set up as follows:

Author proposes that Nurses and other healthcare professionals shall have overriding obligations to report any “red-flag” signs or symptoms observed or reported to them about a child in any healthcare set up. Child Development Centre (CDC) or its equivalent e.g. IDEA Centre in many parts of the USA (designated centre) should be a point of direct access for such reporting. Professionals should report to their Line Managers. But to avoid the consequences of professional ignorance on the subject (item number 20 of the Pediatric Symptom Checklist [PSC] of the Bright Futures), a direct referral must always accompany. Nations will have to support the legislative framework in lieu with their respective Child Protection Agencies to empower Early Detection and Early Intervention of Sub-syndromic and Sub-threshold neuro-developmental and biopsychosocial disorders, which take up half of the office visits of the family physicians at least in three quarter of instances, where less than a fifth of the family physicians have any clue on these disorders as per current Evidence Based Medicine! This could be one of the most potent cost saving tools in Pediatric Healthcare [Social Capital. David Hall & David Elliman. 2004]

Biography

Anjan Bhattacharya is an Honorary Affiliate Tutor and Course Co-ordinator of DCH/IPPC of Sydney University Australia; MRCPCH UK Invigilator for India Examinations and an examiner elect of the DCH, UK examinations. He is a Fellow of the RCPCH, UK. He is ex-head DNB Program of AGH, Kolkata and DNB Centre Appraiser of NBE, New Delhi. He was awarded Pioneer Award by East Zone IAP and Bharat Jyoti Award by India International Friendship Society. He is one of the course designer and national Trainer of the Trainers (ToT) module on Emotional Intelligence as part of Presidential Action Plan 2014 of Indian Academy of Paediatrics. He is one of the first 15 Honorary Fellows of India in the subject of Disability Prevention and Early Intervention, as conferred by the President of Indian Academy of Paediatrics through its Childhood Disability Group.

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