

MANAGING PROGRAMMES TO IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH

Short Course Organisers:

Wiedaad Slemming and Haroon Saloojee
Division of Community Paediatrics

Tel: 011-481-5196/7

Email: Wiedaad.Slemming@wits.ac.za

Broad outline of short course

Better planning and management of child health programmes is urgently needed. Although simple and effective interventions to reduce child deaths are available, these interventions are often not reaching the children who most need them. Programmes that are well planned and managed are more likely to improve intervention coverage and therefore reduce child deaths.

Aim/s of the course

The course is designed primarily for managers of programmes related to child health at the sub-national levels such as, provincial, regional, district and sub-district. These managers must take the vision for child health described by the national-level planners in the strategic plan and turn it into action on the ground. This course aims to provide managers with essential knowledge and skills that they can use to improve programme management. Many parts of this course may be relevant to national-level managers too.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Conceptualize and appropriately use data from different sources to assess strengths and weaknesses, as well as identify gaps in maternal and child health programmes and implement appropriate policy and advocacy measures to ensure optimal care.
- Develop activity-related targets and planning activities to implement interventions in the home and community, first-level health facilities and referral facilities, as well as selecting monitoring indicators and planning how to monitor them.
- Apply knowledge of management theories and practice to the development, planning, and evaluation of public health programmes, including the implementation of strategies promoting integrated service systems for maternal and child health.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to develop a work plan and budget, and to manage implementation of maternal and child health interventions.

Assessment practice

1. *Assignments (represents 50% of total mark for course):*

The assignment aims to provide a coherent learning opportunity that joins class-based work with the assignment, by integrating all the aspects covered during the course. During the course of the week, participants will be required to decide on a child health programme they would like to implement in their district/province and choose a suitable donor they can approach for funding. They will then have to develop and submit a letter of intent. A letter of intent is usually an early step in obtaining funding and if the donor is interested, they will request a detailed funding proposal.

2. *Examination (represents 50% of total mark for course)*

Notational Study hours:

Face to face sessions	40
Independent study	20
Assessment	40
Total learning hours	100

Duration: 5 days

NQF: Level 8