



IAP CHAPTER OF NEURO DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS

OBJECTIVES of the IAP Fellowship Program in “Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics”

Following are the objectives of the Fellowship program and after completion of the course the fellows will be able to serve in areas as mentioned below –

1. To develop an excellent understanding of the early child development, factors affecting growth and development, developmental neurology, neuro-developmental disabilities, genetic disorders, sensory impairments, behaviour problems, emotional problems, child guidance, parenting skills, behaviour therapy and counselling, amongst children and adolescents.
2. To develop expertise in neuro developmental assessment for high risk newborns / NICU graduates and planning neuro developmental follow ups, providing counselling for mothers / caretakers of infants at risk.
3. To develop proficiency in early identification and early stimulation program for high risk newborns / infants at risk.
4. To develop proficiency in history taking and clinical examination of children with developmental delays and deviancies.
5. To develop skills and proficiency in documentation, record keeping and reporting of infants and children identified with developmental delays and deviancies.
6. By providing their services and competency in skills required for developmental assessment, planning and implementation for early identification and early intervention for infants and toddlers *at risk* / and children with developmental delays and rehabilitation for children with neuro developmental disorders.
7. To develop skills and proficiency for Prevention of severe disabling conditions in children through Early Identification and Early Intervention by effectively coordinating with a Multi disciplinary team consisting of Clinical Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, Physiotherapists, Special educators, Parents, Caretakers etc and other medical fraternity including Paediatric Neurologists, Orthopedicians, Paediatric Ophthalmologists, Gynaecologists, Geneticists etc.

8. By helping other rehabilitation professionals to develop competencies in organizing the early interventional services.
9. To develop proficiency in clinical examination, record keeping, and documentation for children and adolescents with special needs.
10. To develop proficiency in role of Play in Learning and Instructive methodology for children, types and stages of play, methods and role of play therapy.
11. To develop excellent understanding of the sensory components, sensory issues and sensory disorders, and integrating the stimulation program to improve sensory imbalances.
12. By assisting infants and children with special needs to attain his or her maximum potential in areas of motor, social, cognitive, adaptive and conceptual skills for integration in the society.
13. To prepare children with developmental disorders for elementary education and for integration in the society.
14. By enhancing Parents participation and helping parents and society to develop a 'Right Attitude' towards a Child and or an Adolescent with Special Needs and empowering them with the right knowledge and techniques for interventions in home environment.
15. As a specialist in the science of early childhood development, and childhood disability by delivering high quality clinical outcome in every single case through awareness, advocacy and promotion of implementation of governmental policies
16. As doctor with Special Interest and Specialist Role by helping to avoid professional role confusion and Integrating all work aligned with the Government's Practices and Policies (SNCUs, RBSK)
17. The fellows will be able to set up independent Child Development Centres catering to the health and educational needs of children with special needs in the society.
18. The fellows will participate in the Community programs and National programs to train various multi-purpose health workers, Anganwadi workers, ASHA's, ANM's at the PHC's in early identification and early referrals to appropriate centres for interventional services.
19. The fellows will be able to seek and analyze rationally any recent advances and or new literature with information about diagnostic or interventional services for childhood disabilities and will practice evidence based therapeutic and non therapeutic modalities.

20. The fellows will develop proficiency in conducting research work independently and will be able to fill in the lacunae created by lack of evidence based practice in the field of childhood disability in India.
21. The fellows will exhibit communication skills of high order and demonstrate compassionate attributes towards children and adolescents with disabilities.
22. The fellow will develop expertise and aptitude in communicating with families and parents of children with disabilities.
23. The Fellows will also get an exposure to the Community Based Rehabilitation Programs and will get skilled in carrying out similar programs.
24. The Fellowship course also aims at enhancing awareness among pediatricians regarding approach to and management of school going children with poor scholastic performance.
25. The trained Fellows in turn would be able to conduct awareness programs for the school management, teachers and parents so that the problems of this 'invisible handicap' are dealt with on a war footing by everyone dealing with children in our country.

Disability, both visible and invisible affects 1 in 4 to 1 in 5 children throughout the world. With advent of SNCUs (Special Neonatal Care Units) India is poised to drastically reduce its NMR (Neonatal Mortality Rates) but the burden of Disability will remain high in NICU Graduates. Disability is commoner in resource limited nations like India. Early Detection and Expert Early Intervention have been shown to be the best policy to decrease the rates and degrees of disability in children. More and more doctors are needed to tackle the situation, and more expert training is required to reach out and help the children at risk. The IAP Chapter of Neuro Developmental Pediatrics has initiated this Fellowship Program, under the aegis of Indian Academy of Pediatrics to take forward and support the cause in the country. We invite all Pediatricians with the passion to learn and be the change in the society, to come and join the fellowship program and get equipped with the right knowledge and expertise to serve the children and adolescents of the country.