COVID-19
RESPONSE AND CONTAINMENT MEASURES
TRAINING OF ANM, ASHA, AWW
SESSION 3
PREVENTION: SAFE PRACTICES IN THE COMMUNITY

- HAND HYGIENE
- RESPIRATORY HYGIENE
- SOCIAL DISTANCING
- HIGH RISK GROUP
MODES OF TRANSMISSION

SNEEZE/ COUGH BY INFECTED PERSON → INFECTED DROPLETS → INFECTED DROPLETS GET ON YOUR HAND → AND WHEN TOUCH ANY SURFACE OR PERSON → VIRUS TRANSFERRED!!
Hand hygiene is a way of cleaning one's hands that substantially reduces potential pathogens (harmful germs) on the hands. Hand hygiene procedures include hand washing with soap and water for at least 40 secs or use of 70% alcohol-based hand rubs.

**DO**
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 40 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Use a hand sanitiser (at least 70% alcohol based) if soap and water not available cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

**DO NOT**
- Touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Touch surfaces like door knobs and door bells, elevator buttons, handrails, support handles, chair backs, ATM surfaces, mobiles, jeep handles etc.
Respiratory Hygiene is a combination of measures taken to stop the spread of germs through respiratory behaviours like coughing or sneezing.

**DO**
- DO USE a handkerchief or a tissue to cover your face while coughing or sneezing
- DO THROW the used tissue immediately into a closed dustbin
- DO COVER your sneeze into your bent upper arm in case you are not carrying a tissue or a kerchief.
- DO WASH hands immediately after you have covered your sneeze or cough

**DO NOT**
- DO NOT use other ways of covering your face like the pallu of the sari of the chunni or the gamcha
- DO NOT spit in the open, always use a spittoon or wash basin for spitting
CASE STUDY

Smita has gone out to buy vegetables. She has a sore throat and is often coughing without covering her face. You are in the shop when she comes and suddenly she has a fit of cough. Everyone instantly moves away from her and the shopkeeper says angrily “Don’t come into my shop if you are coughing.”

QUESTION 1: IF YOU WERE THERE AS A CUSTOMER; WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

QUESTION 2: IF YOU WERE THE SHOPKEEPER, WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

QUESTION 3: AS A HEALTH WORKER WHAT WOULD YOU ADVISE/COUNSEL?

ANSWERS

• It is good for people to move away and keep a distance. However, as a fellow customer anyone could give a polite advice to follow the correct respiratory hygiene.

• It is wrong for the shopkeeper to have shouted at Smita. This is stigmatising behaviour. Though everyone is scared, being rude is not helpful. It will just keep people away from reporting a problem if they feel discriminated against. The shopkeeper can also keep his shop infection free by wiping the counters with a disinfectant regularly.

As a health worker my job will be:

• Counsel Smita that she must cover her face with a handkerchief when coughing. Suggest her to get medication at the PHC

• Counsel the shopkeeper that anyone can have a cough and it need not be coronavirus infection. However anyone can have the infection and therefore he can help by keeping a box of tissues and hand sanitizer on the counter or keep a washing station for people to wash their hand.

• Counsel people on respiratory hygiene
SOCIAL DISTANCING: DELIBERATELY INCREASING THE PHYSICAL SPACE BETWEEN PEOPLE TO AVOID SPREADING ILLNESS. STAYING AT LEAST ONE METER AWAY FROM OTHER PEOPLE LESSENS YOUR CHANCES OF CATCHING COVID-19.

**DO**
- STAY AT HOME UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY
- KEEP A DISTANCE OF AT LEAST ONE METER BETWEEN YOURSELF AND ANOTHER PERSON

**DO NOT**
- DO NOT HOLD EVENTS WHERE PEOPLE HAVE TO GATHER (EVEN IF IT IS A CORNER MEETING WITH THREE OR FOUR FRIENDS, OR AN EVENING CHAT ON THE CHAUPAL)
- DO NOT GO TO CROWDED PLACES LIKE MARKETS, SHOPPING, MELAS, PARTIES
- DO NOT USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT
PREVENTION: HIGH RISK GROUP

HIGH RISK GROUPS ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE AT A HIGHER RISK FROM SEVERE ILLNESS IF THEY GET COVID-19. THIS INCLUDES:

OLDER ADULTS

PEOPLE WHO HAVE UNDERLYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS LIKE:
- HEART DISEASE
- DIABETES
- LUNG DISEASE
- KIDNEY DISEASE
- ON CANCER MEDICATION

PREGNANT WOMEN
(AS WE DO NOT KNOW THE IMPACT OF THE DISEASE ON PREGNANCY AS OF YET, IT IS BETTER TO TAKE CARE)