

Medical Council of India sponsored CME

"A capacity building seminar for strengthening communication skills of doctors for counseling of parents regarding birth defects"

Organized by

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology & School of Public Health

PGIMER

Chandigarh

on 8th February, 2018"

The seminar was organized with the objective of spreading awareness on birth defects. Birth defects are common, critical and costly conditions. They have a high impact in almost all spheres of our life like physical performance, competence and capability in case of major limb anomalies, central nervous system and cardiac anomalies. In some cases it makes a person dependent on others for whole life e.g. absence of limbs. Genetic counseling about various prenatal testing techniques helps a patient to know about possible risk and indication of the test. These tests give a clear and more accurate diagnosis at an earlier stage of pregnancy and parents get more time to seek proper advice.

Against this backdrop CME entitled "A capacity building seminar for strengthening communication skills of doctors for counseling of parents regarding birth defects" was organized was organized to bring together various stakeholders on 8th February, 2018" at Auditorium-Advanced Eye Centre, 2-5 pm.

Dr. Neelam Aggarwal (Additional Professor, OBG Department, PGIMER) was the Organising Secretary to this Seminar.

Dr. Amarjeet Singh (Professor, Department of Community Medicine) and Dr. Alka (Research Scholar, Centre for Public Health) were Convener and Co-convener to the seminar respectively. Experts from various fields' i.e. Gynaecology, Pediatrics, community medicine, Nursing Institutes, Panjab University, Public health department participated in the seminar.

Mrs. Bhwana Tyal, Director, Sadhna Society vocational training institute for mentally handicapped shared her experiences with Special Children. This was followed by performances by special children. Lecture of expert speakers was followed by interactive discussion with the audience. This initiative will help work towards removing barriers and making existing health care systems more inclusive and accessible to people having babies with birth defect.

This seminar is expected to ensure ears to needs of birth defect babies. Opinions of target group i.e. parents of birth defect babies will help identify gaps and priorities to reduce health inequalities and plan improvement for access and inclusion. This seminar will act as an advocacy mechanism for the needs of patients through discussion among experts.



Dr. Neelam Aggarwal with Special children from Sadhna Society, Chandigarh



Audience in the seminar



Dance performances by special children