



Comprehensive Health Care Service for Construction Workers - Delhi

In 2013, with support from Bird Group, we piloted a programme of providing comprehensive primary health care services to construction workers at the project site of an upcoming hotel in Aerocity Delhi Near Mahipalpur.

During the course of their work, construction workers are exposed to a wide variety of hazards, including dusts and vapours, asbestos, awkward working positions, heavy loads, adverse weather conditions, noise, and vibration from tools, among many others. Construction sites are often breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Long exposure to dust and heat during working hours and living in overcrowded settlements also put the m at a greater risk of contracting viral and other respiratory infections. Lack of awareness, lowwages and the absence of reliable health facilities near the construction sites, all ad d to the overall poor health conditions.

The intent of the intervention was to provide comprehensive primary health care services to the construction workers and to promote positive behaviour change by building their awareness on personal hygiene, sanitation, hazards of excessive alcohol consumption, importance of consuming nutritious food and safety measures to prevent injuries.

Under the intervention a health camp was organised every week at the construction site where a doctor along with Para medic and project staff visited the construction site. The construction project manager and labour union head were responsible for informing the labor about the clinic. Regular health check-ups were done for all construction workers and medicines distributed to those requiring treatment. The camps were also used as a platform to hold awareness sessions. Some of the topics which we covered during the course of the year are importance of washing hands before eating, sanitation and hygiene and safe drinking water.

Every quarter we also distributed nutritional food to the construction workers. Each worker has been given 1 kg of swasthya atta, 500 gm of swasthya dalia and 350 gm of sattu. Distributed 600 packets

In the course of the year we reached 1000 construction workers.