

MAHATI Trust Report

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Introduction:

Mahati Trust, an NGO registered as a wholly charitable trust U/s 12A and recognized U/s 80G of the IT act is established in October 2011 to address the prevalence of cervical cancer in urban and rural Karnataka.

A group of doctors and corporate personnel constitute the Mahati Trust and are working together towards a cervical cancer-free Karnataka.

Team also includes many doctors from the community who volunteer to help on need basis and participate in the awareness and screening camps.

Objectives:

- To conduct cervical cancer awareness programs for both rural and urban women.
- To initiate population based screening programs to women of 35-60yrs of age in rural and urban Karnataka.
- To use PAP test as screening tool and aid in effective treatment
- To generate and collate information on incidence of cervical cancer in Karnataka

Member List:

- Dr. Sundari, Professor, OBGYN, MS Ramaiah Hospital
- Dr. Radhika Bobba, Consultant
- Ms. Swarupa Kakumanu
- Mr. H. L. Gundu Rao

Volunteering Doctors:

Dr. Shubha Ramarao, HOD, Martha's Hospital
Dr. Padmalatha, Martha's Hospital
Dr. Rashmi, Columbia Asia Hospital
Dr. Shaibya Saldanha, Acura Hospital
Dr. Padmakshi Puli, J J Hospital
Dr. Tripti Kulkarni
Dr. Jayanthi Rajanna
Dr. Ashwini, MS Ramaiah

Staff at Muddenahalli:

Mrs. Kavitha – Local Coordinator

Mr. Rajanna – MSW worker

Status as on December, 2013:

We have been running awareness and screening programs in urban areas covering urban women community, Corporates and Govt School Teachers. The intention is to identify the women in the precancerous state and aid in treatment.



Specifically, we have taken up a rural pilot screening program in Muddenahalli (Chikkaballapur Taluk) PHC to cover all 56 villages. The model we have adopted is to group all the villages under few sub-centers and conduct screening programs three times a month. We have hired a local coordinator to reach out to each door in the village to spread the awareness.

The place is approx 85 kms from Bangalore and the entire team with the screening equipment travels to the venue for every camp. Till now we have completed 46 villages and 5 sub-centers and screened 2044 women and conducted 1430 pap smears as part of this screening. The coverage is maintained at 75 – 80% of the eligible women population in every village.

The smears/slides collected are identified to the individual with proper coding. The pap smears are read by pathologists at Bangalore. Where intervention is required, the women are treated appropriately. The cost of treatment is subsidized by M.S. Ramaiah Hospital (Dr. Sundari, President of Mahati Trust works at M.S. Ramaiah Hospital).

The overall data is presented below. We, at mahati trust maintains the complete data base of the villages covered, women screened and number of positive cases. This helps us to plan appropriate intervention. The statistics also help us build a more predictable delivery model and to plan better the costs of intervention.

Total checked	2064
Total Smears	1430
Total positive cases	36

The CA cervix occurrence % is alarmingly high at 2.5% in this PHC.

Out of the 36 cases, the following cases were treated at M S Ramaiah Hospital, Bangalore

- 27 were Pre- cancerous (Treated 2 cases)
- 9 Cancerous (Treated 4 cases)

Here is our total involvement to date.

Total # of camps	70
Total # of Beneficiaries	5013
Total smears	1556





Highlights:

1. Induction of volunteers doctors into the group
2. 12A exemption and 80G approval complete.
3. MOU with MS Ramaiah, Narayana Hrudayalaya, Anand Diagnostics labs and Kidwai Institute to work together on this initiative.
4. Completed awareness talks for North Zone 2 cluster 1 and cluster 2 Govt school teachers (approx 750). Need to continue with other zones.
5. Conducted overall **70** camps and covered **5013** women in these camps. Screened **2097** women and total of **1556** smears taken. Found **36** positive cases and treated (ongoing) **6** positive women.
6. Pilot project (Muddenahalli Screening Programs) in progress. **5 sub-centers/46 villages complete.**
7. Entered into an MOU with Avani NGO to work together for this pilot project. Obtained grants from SETU Foundation through Avani NGO to start the rural population based screening programs in Muddenahalli.
8. Created Mahati Trust website (www.mahatitrust.org)

Future Plans:

1. Continue the rural camps, 3 camps a month till muddenahalli PHC is complete. Next PHC identified is Nandi. Study is in progress to gather the villages to be covered and the number of eligible women.
2. Continue the awareness talks in urban areas.
3. Take up Media coverage and complete the awareness creation film in Kannada.
4. Initiate dialogue with radio and TV channels.
5. Start awareness/screening programs for Corporates
6. Strengthen the programs of Govt School teachers
7. Start screening programs in Urban areas (Bangalore)

Our current challenges:

Area	Description of Challenge	Our approach to overcome challenge	Where do we need help
Awareness	Women are not willing to get screened	Create a video/film in local language educating women. In progress.	Video delivery mechanisms
	Women refuse to seek treatment	Video explaining that the condition is entirely treatable and detailing out the consequences if the condition is not treated.	Biggest challenge as of now. Intend to reach out to the families, village authorities and strengthen awareness.
Organization	Scalability as the organization consists mostly of volunteers	While volunteers will continue to play a big role in our reach, Mahati intends to attract appropriate grants to build solid delivery mechanisms	Contribute to help Mahati build a sustainable delivery model; or help raise grants with the Government or International agencies
	Grow the volunteer/contributor base of Mahati	Help reach the Mahati message to a larger audience; Help deliver Mahati services to other districts/states	Help build an online presence for Mahati – A more interactive website, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn presence
	Build sustainable revenues for Mahati to increase the reach to larger community	Help launch Mahati services to the private sector	Champion the launch of Mahati's services and presence with Indian corporate sector/Govt authorities and Institutions