10 August 2017

ASHA Information Handout

Bring your child to the nearest school and *Anganwadi* on National Deworming Day where deworming tablets will be administered **free-of-cost**

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**ASHA's important role in community awareness**

1. Inform your community about the benefits of deworming and National Deworming Day. Encourage everyone to send their children to the school/*Anganwadi* on **10 August 2017**.

2. Encourage children who could not be dewormed on National Deworming Day to have the tablet on mop-up day, **17 August 2017**.

3. Before National Deworming Day, make a list of all unregistered and out-of-school children during home visits, and give the list to your *Anganwadi* worker.

4. Ensure all unregistered and out-of-school children benefit from this program by being dewormed at the *Anganwadi*.

5. Inform your community about the benefits of deworming and the date of National Deworming Day through *Gram Panchayat* and VHSNC.

6. Inform your community about messages on deworming appearing in radio, newspapers, TV and that they should listen/watch them carefully.

7. Inform children who come to the school/*Anganwadi* and their parents/guardians about the benefits of deworming and all related information. Tell them it is important that all children have this tablet.
How do worms spread?

1. An infected child contaminates soil with faeces containing worm eggs. These eggs develop into larvae in the soil.

2. Other children are infected by eggs ingested through food or dirty hands, or by larvae penetrating the skin.

3. In an infected child, eggs and larvae develop into adult worms, which produce eggs and have an ill effect on the child’s health.

Impact of worm infestation on a child’s health:

- Anemia
- Nutritional impairment
- Loss of appetite
- Weakness and anxiety
- Stomach ache, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea
- Weight loss

- The greater the amount of worms in a child (intensity), the more symptoms the infected child will have.
- Children with mild infections usually have no symptoms.

Benefits of deworming children:

- Controls anemia
- Improves nutritional uptake
- Helps improve concentration, capacity to learn, and attendance at school and **Anganwadi**
- Helps improve work potential and livelihood opportunity
- Benefits the community by reducing worms in the environment

In addition to deworming, there are other practices that help to reduce worm infections

- **Do not defecate in the open. Always use a toilet.**
- **Wash your hands with soap, especially before eating and after using the toilet.**
- **Wear shoes.**
- **Keep your nails clean and short.**
- **Always drink clean water. Keep food covered.**
- **Wash fruits and vegetables with clean water.**
- **Keep your surroundings clean.**

Inform community, parents, and children in detail about these behaviours

1. Albendazole is a safe drug for children and adults. The tablet should be administered to the child at school/**Anganwadi**
2. Children who are sick or have had any other medicine should not be administered the deworming tablet.
3. The tablet should always be chewed properly. Make sure clean drinking water is available to avoid choking. Albendazole tablets that are not chewed may have significantly lower effectiveness.
4. After having the tablet, sometimes children will experience nausea, mild abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, and fatigue, which can be expected if they have worms. Do not panic.
5. **Call_______** for any medical assistance.

**Fulfil your role in this program with enthusiasm and play a part in giving children a brighter future.**