

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS
Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences
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Swami Ram Nagar, Jolly Grant
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Activity report of Autism Awareness Programme

Beginning with World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, we observed April as Autism Awareness Month. We carried out a campaign for improving the understanding and acceptance of people about autism spectrum disorder (ASD) along with fostering community support. Our campaign included the following activities:

1. Pediatrician Seminar to spread awareness among our fraternity
2. Quiz on Autism for PG Students
3. Teachers Meet
4. Poster Competition for MBBS students
5. Awareness Campaign in Patients' ward focusing on their Parents: Parents were made aware of symptoms, conveyed benefits of early detection, methods of handling it, and the plan of way forward
6. Drawing Competition for Children
7. Poster Display Exhibition as Public Awareness Program
8. Street Corner Skit (Nukkad Natak): The Autism awareness week activities were concluded by residents conducting Natak at the hospital OPD area.
9. Activities of Autism Month were concluded on 18th April by a specially organized Symposium in the SRHU auditorium with very diverse participation of PG residents and students of various courses namely MBBS, Nursing, Paramedical, Bio Sciences, Yoga Sciences and Management. Lamp lightening and Inauguration of event was performed by Honorable VC SRHU, along with Dean, HIMS and Vice Principal (PG). The participants also included Faculty members from various Departments and employees of SRHU along with attendants of patients as well as parents of autistic children This symposium included the following activities:
 - a. Opening remarks by Dean, HIMS
 - b. Panel discussion by learned Faculty from Pediatrics, Holistic medicine and Audiology.
 - c. Nukad Natak on Autism by Resident doctors of Pediatrics
 - d. Interactive session with parents of Autistic children and the audience about the management of autistic children



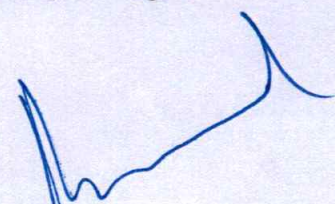
- e. Address by Chief Guest Honorable VC SRHU
- f. Distribution of poster competition prizes



The objective of these activities was to make the public aware about autism and come forward to help these children. We conveyed that Autistics are not mentally deficient but they have problems with social communication and interaction, and restricted or repetitive behaviors or interests. People with ASD may also have different ways of learning, moving, or paying attention.

Overall, it was a very successful campaign.




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