Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS)


News: The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched a campaign in Gujarat named Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS).

Preims and mains focus: Key features and significance of the programme.

Aims:

1. To reduce child mortality due to pneumonia, which contributes to around 15% of deaths of children under the age of five annually.
2. To mobilise people to protect children from pneumonia, and train health personnel and other stakeholders to provide prioritised treatment to control the disease.

Key features of the programme:

- A child suffering from pneumonia will be treated with a pre-referral dose of antibiotic amoxicillin by Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers.
- Pulse Oximeter (device to monitor oxygen saturation) will be used at the Health and Wellness Centre for identification of low oxygen levels in the blood of child and if required, the child can be treated by the use of oxygen cylinders.
- A mass awareness campaign will be launched about the effective solutions for pneumonia prevention like breastfeeding, age-appropriate complementary feeding and immunization etc.
THE FACTS ABOUT PNEUMONIA

Pneumonia is the largest infectious cause of death in children around the world, being responsible for over 920,000 deaths in children under the age of 5 in 2015.

What is Pneumonia?
It is an infection of the lungs that inflames air sacs, which may fill with fluid. This can happen in one or both lungs.

Is Pneumonia fatal?
Yes, especially for children in developing countries where proper care is not available. It is always a threat despite age.

Visit your doctor if you notice the following symptoms:

- Fever
- No appetite
- Coughing up bloody or yellow phlegm