

Title of the project -

Barriers faced by parents/guardians of family based children infected/affected by HIV/AIDS to access services for children: A situation analysis in four districts of Maharashtra

Primary objectives –

- To estimate the magnitude of school non-enrollment, school drop-out, and highest educational attainment (years of formal schooling) among family-based HIV-affected/infected children.
- To understand the barriers faced by care givers of family-based children affected/infected with HIV to access services for children.
- To understand the barriers faced by other stakeholders (such as organizations working for CABA, managers of government departments) involved in provision of services to these children.

Secondary objectives –

- To understand the socio-demographic determinants of school non-enrollment and school drop-outs among these children.
- To document information on the best practices to overcome the barriers faced by CABA while accessing services for children, and social welfare schemes.
- To understand the current availability of services of health, education, HIV care and support and other child protection services in the state

Approach -

The assessment was undertaken in 4 districts of western Maharashtra viz. Pune, Mumbai, Solapur, and Sangli. It had the following components -

- A. A cross-sectional survey with care givers (parents/guardians) of family-based HIV-infected or HIV-affected children in the 6 – 18 years age group. Survey participants were recruited through community based organizations (CBO)/ positive people's networks / non-government organizations from these districts (NGO). (Number of participants - 510).
- B. Focused group discussions (FGD) with organizations (CBOs/networks of positive people/ NGOs) facilitating linkage of CABA to different services. (Number of participants – 25).
- C. Interviews with managers of government departments providing services for children. (Number of participants -23).
- D. Mapping the availability of existing services for children.

Principal Investigator

Dr. Vinay Kulkarni

Dr.Ritu Parchure

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