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CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION



Inspiring Excellence



WHY A CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)?

In recent years, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory disease are impacting negatively on human health and hindering human development. Bangladesh is going through an epidemiological transition where disease burden is shifting from communicable diseases to non-communicable diseases. According to Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (2011), in Bangladesh, 19% of >35 years old men and 32% of >35 years old women are hypertensive. In addition, 11% of them have diabetes. Recent data also suggest that Bangladesh has a higher prevalence of avoidable risk factors of NCDs including consumption of unhealthy diet, inadequate physical activity, consumption of tobacco, high salt intake etc. In addition, double burden of malnutrition is an emerging public health issue in Bangladesh which means the people in Bangladesh are suffering from both undernutrition (underweight, stunting, micronutrient deficiencies) and overnutrition (overweight, obesity). Double burden of malnutrition is also closely related to the development of NCDs.

With a vision to prevent and control NCDs and malnutrition, the Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN) has been established.



WHO WE ARE?

Based at the BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (BRAC-JPGSPH), BRAC University in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN) serves as a hub for research, education, training and advocacy for NCDs and Nutrition. The centre was established in 2017 with initial funding support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), United Kingdom. The founding partners of the CNCDN are Non-Communicable Disease Control Program of the Directorate General of Health Services of the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh (NCDC); Imperial College London; BRAC; Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM); National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD); Bangladesh University of Health Sciences (BUHS); and BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University.

Aim: To prevent and control NCDs and Malnutrition in Bangladesh

Objectives

- Conduct and facilitate discovery, development, and delivery research on NCDs and nutrition
- Strengthen capacity of students, health care providers, policy makers, researchers and program managers on prevention, treatment and control of NCDs and malnutrition
- Develop and facilitate development of policies, guidelines, quality standards for the prevention, treatment and control of NCDs and malnutrition
- Carry out evidence-based advocacy for scaling-up prevention, treatment and control activities of NCDs and malnutrition
- Create a platform for government, non-government organizations and development partners for sharing their works and experiences relevant to NCDs and malnutrition



WHAT WE DO?

Research

- We carry out surveys, surveillance and large cohort studies to estimate the burden of NCDs and malnutrition
- We test novel interventions to determine efficacy
- We identify evidence-based practices and implement them in clinical and population settings to understand effectiveness
- We implement health system research to optimize delivery of interventions
- We conduct economic evaluation of novel and evidence-based interventions

Capacity strengthening

- We strengthen capacity of students and researchers on research methods and tools for carrying out NCD and nutrition research
- We train health service providers on prevention and management of NCDs and malnutrition
- We strengthen capacity of program managers and policy makers on evidence-based policy and interventions for prevention and control of NCDs and malnutrition

Develop guidelines and quality standards

- We develop, revise and facilitate development of disease or health condition specific prevention and management guidelines and quality standards for primary, secondary and tertiary health care system

Advocacy

- We develop, revise and facilitate development of communication materials to promote healthy lifestyle for prevention, treatment and control of NCDs and malnutrition
- We prepare policy briefs and advocacy materials to promote evidence-based policy formulation and scaling up
- We arrange roundtables, panel discussions, seminars, workshops, and exposure visits to foster implementation of policy and strategies

Partnership and networking

- We work as a platform for government and non-government organizations to share their works and resources with others
- We foster networking opportunities among the partners