

**REPORT ON WORLD AIDS DAY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

In Commemoration of **World AIDS Day**, the school organised an awareness campaign to educate students on communicable diseases and HIV/AIDS. The programme was facilitated by **Dr. N Hemavathy, Associate Professor at Chengalpattu Medical College**, whose vast experience and expertise made the session both informative and insightful.

The recitation of the Gayatri Mantra, created a serene and calm atmosphere for meaningful learning. **Mrs. Mili Shahi Nair**, formally introduced Dr. N Hemavathy, highlighting her notable achievements in the fields of medicine and education.

The campaign began with a **pre-test**, designed to assess the students' prior knowledge. The questionnaire consisted of simple, yet thought-provoking questions that encouraged students to actively participate and reflect on their understanding.

Dr. Hemavathy introduced the concept of **communicable and non-communicable diseases**, clearly differentiating between the two and emphasising the importance of awareness and prevention. She elaborated on several common communicable diseases prevalent in India, including **Tuberculosis, Chickenpox, Smallpox, Influenza, and Rabies**, stressing the urgency of spreading awareness about their causes and prevention.

Each disease was explained in detail, covering its origin, mode of transmission, symptoms, severity, and preventive measures. The explanations were concise, accurate, and easily understandable, making the session highly effective for the students.

The focus of the campaign then shifted to its primary objective, **Awareness on AIDS**. Dr. Hemavathy explained that AIDS (Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome) is caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which attacks the immune system. She discussed the modes of transmission, including unprotected sexual contact, infected blood transfusions, use of contaminated needles and syringes, and vertical transmission from mother to child. A video presentation was screened to visually explain how HIV integrates into human DNA, followed by a clear explanation of the symptoms at different stages of the disease.

The session concluded with a powerful message by Dr. N Hemavathy on the need to eliminate stigma, fear, and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS. She emphasised that PLHA (People Living with HIV/AIDS) deserve respect, dignity, and inclusion in society.

The campaign was supported by **well-designed PowerPoint presentations, informative videos, and flowcharts**, which enhanced clarity and understanding. The interactive nature of the session allowed students to ask questions and clarify doubts, making the learning experience more impactful.

Overall, the awareness campaign was a great success, effectively educating students about prevalent diseases in India and promoting responsible attitudes towards health and society. The students found the session highly **educational, informative and instructional**.

The school extends its heartfelt gratitude to **Dr. N Hemavathy** for her valuable contribution and successful dissemination of awareness through this programme. The campaign reinforced the **importance of being informed and responsible members of the society**.



**Dr. N Hemavathy, Associate Professor  
Chengalpattu Medical College accorded a  
Welcome by the School**



**Interactive Learning Experience made the campaign more impactful**



**Sharing the Significance of being informed and to become responsible members of the Society**

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HIV/AIDS**

HIGH RISK BEHAVIORS		MYTHS VS FACTS	
INJECTING DRUGS	UNPROTECTED SEXUAL INTERCOURSE	Having HIV is a death sentence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACT
HIV INFECTION FROM HIGH-RISK BEHAVIORS CAN BE AVOIDED THROUGH:		It's difficult to get HIV from casual contacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACT
a. Not doing drugs, especially through needle injection b. Using Condoms c. Practising abstinence d. Ensuring both people (who will do sexual intercourse) are tested for HIV Status		Mosquito bites spread HIV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACT
		You can have healthy babies even though you're an HIV positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACT
		Any can get HIV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FACT

**STIGMA LANGUAGE GUIDE**

PROBLEMATIC WORD/PHRASE	PREFERRED WORD/PHRASE
AIDS (when referring to the virus, HIV)	HIV and AIDS (when referring to both)
Why: AIDS does not equal HIV. If is a condition with HIV virus occurs to the immune system	
To catch AIDS	To be diagnosed with HIV
To catch HIV	To acquire HIV
To pass on HIV	To transmit HIV
Why: AIDS cannot be caught or transmitted. People get HIV. HIV can be transmitted, not hereditary	
High(er) risk group(s)	High-risk Behaviour
Groups with high-risk behavior	Key populations of higher risk
Why: These terms imply that membership in some groups can result in a HIV Positive diagnosis	
Victims	People/ Person with HIV
Sufferers	
Contaminated	
Why: Some people with HIV feel that these terms imply that they are powerless	

**STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION**

A health care institutional professional refers to provide care to PLWHA	Socially isolates a member of a community because they are HIV positive	Referring to people as HIVers or Positives (in seriousness or jokingly)
Refusing casual contact with someone living with HIV		

**A Flyer disseminating information about Communicable Diseases**