

4th VIA Training Program for Staff Nurses Uttarakhand Govt 29th August to 7th September 2022, AIIMS Rishikesh

The VIA training for staff nurses was a structured 10-day program conducted at AIIMS Rishikesh. The staff nurses (19) came from CHCs, PHCs, HWC, NCDs of 11 districts of Uttarakhand from as far as Dharchula, Barakot, Someshwar, Tulyara, Joshimath etc. . This time of the 19 staff nurses, 8 were community health officers working exclusively for the NCD program. Majority of the staff nurses were easier to train as they were already involved in the care of antenatal women and conducting deliveries and were young, keen and enthusiastic learners.

Through the training over 10 days they understood the natural history of cervical cancer, its causative factors, methods of detection, presentation and that it is almost 100% preventable through screening older women (30-65 years) and administering HPV vaccination to adolescent girls. They were educated that preinvasive disease may be entirely asymptomatic and hence the need for screening but were also told about the warning signs of cervical cancer. Now not only will they be able to educate and create awareness about this preventable cancer but also be able to perform VIA and counsel women for either treatment or repeat screening at 5 years' interval. At the end of the program all trainees were positive about performing the Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid Test confidently and interpret results. Extensive sessions for pretest and posttest counselling was given through lectures and role play.

Training program was conducted in the Nursing college of AIIMS Rishikesh which has well equipped Halls with audio-visual facilities and a skill lab. The morning sessions consisted of interactive sessions, lectures, skill lab training and role plays which were taken by faculty & residents of Obstetrics & Gynecology, fellows of Gynecologic Oncology, Community & Family medicine faculty & residents and Nursing college tutors. The afternoon sessions were hands on training (8 days dedicated to Hands on training) conducted in the Gynae OPD with four rooms running simultaneously each with two to three senior trainers (Faculty & Residents). Sufficient number of eligible (30-65 years of age) women consenting for screening with VIA on each of

these days were recruited through the OPD. They were trained on preparation of acetic acid, materials and equipment needed, adequate counselling of the woman, making the patient comfortable before starting the process, actual performance of the test, posttest counselling etc. A hard copy of ICMR booklet on VIA training with complete information was given to each candidate as a ready reckoner.

Feedback from trainees was very good and 80% said the training was very good to excellent, 17% thought it was too long (10 days), 91% agreed that the trainers were excellent, used their time well and were helpful, all agreed that learning objectives were clear and the course content was organized & well planned and allowed the trainees to participate fully.

For performing this test a few basic instruments and materials along with an examination table and good light source will be needed in all PHCs. They will be able to start doing the procedure and it is recommended that one to two days of the week to be kept for screening for cervical cancer with VIA at respective centres



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[Photographs](#)



First day orientation and briefing the trainees



Training on per speculum examination on pelvic model



Training on fresh preparation of 5% Acetic acid



Recap of previous day sessions



Role play by trainees on counselling women for screening



After Hands-on demonstration of VIA in women (done by trainees under supervision of trainers) in Gyn OPD



Lectures by faculty



Certificate distribution at the valedictory program



End of training session