ASSESSMENT OF ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION SERVICES IN TWO DISTRICTS OF THE STATE OF JHARKHAND (INDIA)

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ABSTRACT

Routine immunization is a fundamental service in India’s public health care system and is regarded as one of the key indicators of the overall functioning of the health system. Therefore, assessing the immunization programme at the district-level is important for understanding the programme status and needs.

This paper assesses the routine immunisation programmes for children and the quality of immunisation services provided in Deoghar and Jamtara districts of Jharkhand. Programme management issues, immunization safety, recording and reporting practices and active tracking of beneficiaries are key aspects which need to be strengthened to improve the quality of immunization services in these two districts. The study highlights the need for focussed activities to strengthen immunization services in the districts. Quality of immunization services also needs special attention to have a positive impact on the overall coverage.

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