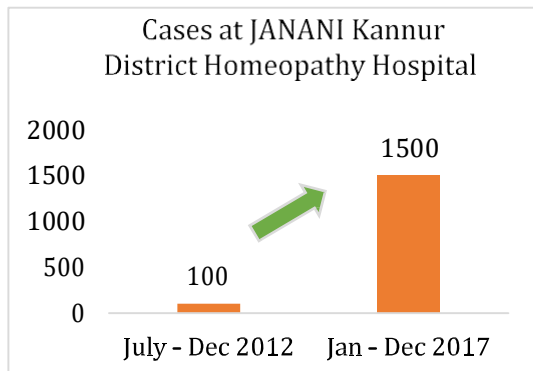


Innovative AYUSH practices in Kerala - JANANI

Introduction

JANANI is an initiative of the Department of Homeopathy, Government of Kerala that was launched in Kannur in 2012. The initiative employs homeopathy treatments for infertility in public health facilities. Cases like repeated abortions, polycystic ovary disease, endometriosis, fibroids and related problems which are known to be some of the reasons for female infertility are tackled under JANANI.

Implementation of the practice



The government implemented this project as a pilot study in the homeopathy department using plan funds. An infertility centre was set up in Kannur District Hospital wherein the treatment was free of cost including the medicines under the district panchayat fund. After the pilot in 2012 by 2013, the department introduced infertility treatment centres at Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode as well.

Results of practice

Over time there has been an exponential growth in the number of infertility cases being registered and treated at Kannur District Homeopathy Hospital. As per the Economic Survey 2018-19, the cases have increased to approximately 1500 in 2017 (Economic Survey 2018-19).

JANANI has been extremely beneficial for those who were unable to conceive even after undergoing 10-15 years of treatment like IVF (In Vitro Fertilization), ICSI (Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection) (EY Primary Analysis: KIIs, 2019).

The JANANI scheme of Government of Kerala has spread awareness about the availability of Homeopathy treatment for infertility in public health facilities. The total number of conceptions after homeopathic intervention through JANANI project till March 2019 is 1,655 of which 966 were reported as successful deliveries (EY Primary Analysis: KIIs, 2019).

Lessons Learnt

- With the success of the pilot project, expansion strategies for scaling up and increasing the reach with the creation of a greater number of centres were effective.
- The involvement of district panchayat through the funding of medicines and community outreach was successful.
- IEC activities like medical camps, awareness classes and district-specific initiatives were also useful. For example, a family meet of beneficiaries is conducted in Kozhikode.