

A Baseline Survey on Child Care Practices of Families in Myanmar, July 2005

Executive Summary

The baseline survey looked into two main part to assess the child care practices that influence young children's (0 to 5) health, nutrition, hygiene, protection and development (cognitive, language, social and emotional) and also to contribute to UNICEF advocacy and Early Childhood Development (ECD) planning and programming.

Summary of Findings, Conclusion and Recommendations:

The conclusion drawn from the survey is that child care certainly lies with the family but still needs community support including that of local health workers. Families need to have sufficient knowledge in giving or seeking treatment from health care providers when children become ill. Superstition or taboos about diet controls or feeding practices might affect not only the health of the newborn but also that of the mother. Sometimes local terms, particularly those signs and symptoms expressed in local dialects, might be counter-productive, if the conditions are not properly understood or are misinterpreted.

Recommendations

Only supportive practices should be sustained. Hence, key family practices have a strong influence on the health care, growth, and development of a child. A pregnant mother needs family and community support in seeking care at the time of delivery, during post-partum and the lactation periods.

Research Geographic Coverage by area

- 1) Demawsoe Township, Kayah State,
- 2) Loikaw Township, Kayah State and
- 3) Falam Township, Chin State

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