



# NEWSLETTER

# EAR CARE NEPAL

**2021**



**School based Ear Health Program**

**Female Community Health Volunteers Training Program**

**Ear Surgeries**

The year 2021 was full of challenges with many variants of covid-19 obstructing our activities. The main hindrance being schools remaining closed along with other government offices and places. Even in these circumstances, ECN tried to be creative and got involved in many activities such as creating educational materials from educational books and comics to awareness songs and animated videos.

ECN conducted different programs and participated in many activities throughout the Kathmandu Valley.

During this period, ECN was also involved in development of official website and article publications on international peer reviewed journals.

The details of the activities are as follows:

## **School based Ear Health Program**

The school screening program was affected due to the Covid-19 situation. Despite the unfavorable situation, Ear Care Nepal conducted school ear health screening programs at different government schools located in Kathmandu, Kirtipur, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur areas of Kathmandu valley. Total number of 2068 students were screened and treated throughout the year for ear and hearing problems.



## **Female Community Health Volunteers Training Program**

Ear Care Nepal initiated Female Community Health Volunteers training program to the female health volunteers of various municipalities. Total of 1,591 female community health volunteers from Lalitpur, Chandragiri, Kirtipur, Godawari, Kathmandu and Thimi municipalities were trained about ear and hearing care. The training was provided using various audio-visual education materials such as power point, animated videos and Awareness song. During training, ECN handed out educational materials about ear and hearing care such as animated booklets and posters to all the participants. The participants actively shared their problems during the training.



## **Ear Surgeries**

Due to the closure of schools, the school ear health screening program was affected. Because of this reason, the number of ear surgeries done were limited to few. A total of 23 children were operated for restoration of hearing.





## World Hearing Day Celebration

A flash mob was performed on various places of Kathmandu valley by the team of Ear Care Nepal to mark the World Hearing Day 2021 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March. The team performed flash mob conveying the message on ear and hearing care to the public on the song “Nepal Ma Bahiropan”.

On the same day, Ear Care Nepal team participated on the rally organized by the Ministry of Health and Population with the team of Female Community Health Volunteers from various wards.



## Development of Educational Materials

Utilizing the lockdown period, ECN team developed educational materials such as animated videos, comic books on ear and hearing care. These informative materials are used for educating children & health workers about ear & hearing care. Please click the link for details:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mB88jm87rO8&list=LLokzx>

## Publication

This year three articles were published in renowned peer reviewed international medical journals.

1. An article, **“Ear Wax and hearing impairment in children in Nepal”** written by Dr. Milan Maharjan, Dr. Samjhana Phuyal, Mana Shrestha and Rosy Bajracharya was published by “WHO South East Asia Journal of Public Health”. Please click on the link for full article.

<https://www.who-seajph.org/article.asp?issn=2224-3151;year=2021;volume=10;issue=1;spage=29;epage=31;aulast=Maharjan>

2. Article, **“Chronic Otitis Media and subsequent hearing loss in children from the Himalayan region residing in Buddhist Monastic schools of Nepal”** was published in “Journal of Otology”.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1672293020300842>

3. **“Prevalence of hearing loss in school aged Nepalese children”** written by Dr. Milan Maharjan, Dr. Samjhana Phuyal and Mana Shrestha was published in “International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology”.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0165587621000513>

## Certificates and Recognitions

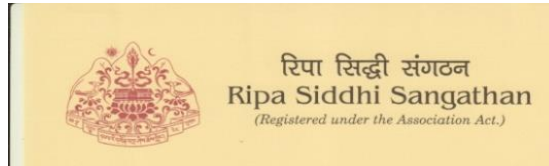
### **1. Pierre Viens, CCISD award/ University Laval**

ECN was awarded with Pierre Viens, CCISD award for the project "Promoting ear and hearing care in Nepalese children during crisis". The award was granted for achieving its objectives, especially, during crisis such as Covid-19 pandemic.

### **2. Certificate of Appreciation, World Hearing Forum, World Health Organization**

ECN received a certificate of appreciation from World Health Organization under World Hearing Forum for its active participation on World Hearing Day 2021 celebration.

## Support



Ripa Siddhi Sangathan through Swiss Ripa Foundation has been supporting for Ear Care Nepal-Ripa Referral center since 2019 till date. In year 2021, 602 underprivileged children received tertiary level ear and hearing rehabilitation services at referral center and 23 children were admitted for various ear surgeries. Swiss Ripa Foundation also continued supporting Female Community Health Volunteers Training program and school screening program throughout the year.

Samsara Nepal continued their support by sponsoring Female Community Health Volunteer training program & school ear health program. Samsara Nepal also continued to support disabled children and a teacher for blind of Disable Service Association, Bungamati, Lalitpur.



**Ear Care Nepal Team**