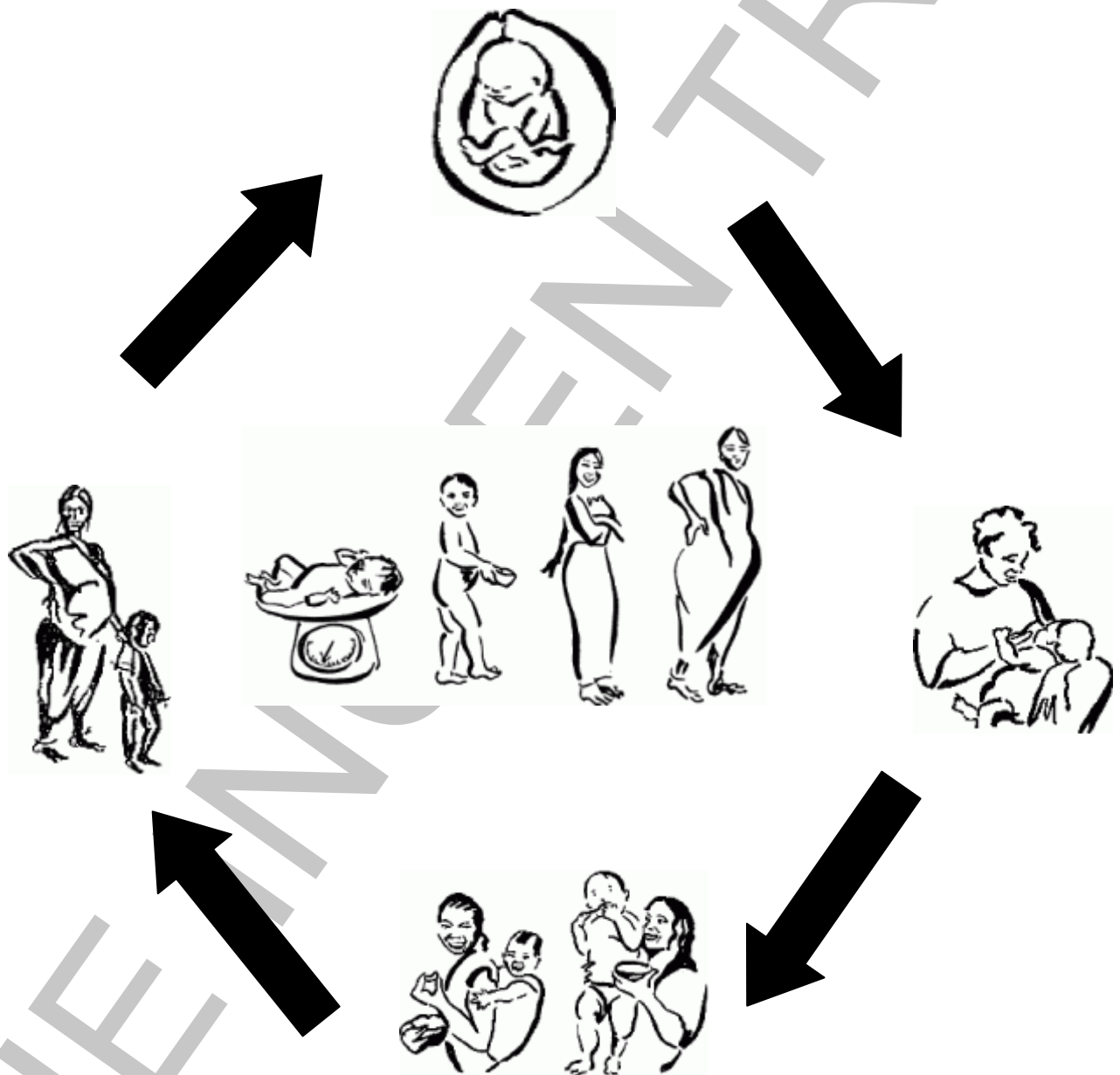


Research Priorities in Child Nutrition



Priority Research Options in Child Nutrition

| National Weighted Priority Ranks | Research Options |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Identify and evaluate strategies to promote healthful lifestyle (physical activity and diet behavior) in children through school and home-based interventions |
| 2 | Determine characteristics of mother friendly work place policies and governance framework that enable optimal care and nutrition of pregnant and lactating women and their children: identify barriers and challenges to implement(E.g., financial security and compensation for loss of pay; crèches at workplaces; provision for breast milk expression and storage for working mothers) |
| 3 | Process, impact and economic evaluation of Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers (NRCs) for management of severely malnourished children(E.g., quality of care and client satisfaction; implementation gaps and challenges, reasons for under-utilization and relapse; IEC to mothers during stay and at discharge; impact assessment, effectiveness of the RUTF used in NRCs and plausibility of indigenous preparation with the help of SHGs) |
| 4 | Identifying strategies for engaging the male partners, families and communities to improve the nutrition of women of reproductive age group and under-five children |
| 5 | Process, impact, and economic evaluation of community-based management of childhood malnutrition (including SAM): role, effectiveness and accountability of various stakeholders (including frontline workers) |
| 6 | Impact and economic evaluation of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) practices in the community on the nutrition of women and children |
| 7 | Cost-effective strategies to improve the quality, quantity and coverage of food supplements provided under the Mid-Day Meal Programme to improve the nutritional status of school-going children in India |
| 8 | Determining optimal growth trajectory of LBW (preterm, SGA) babies: nutrient and calorie requirements; strategies to minimize, mitigate development of chronic diseases |

Priority Research Options in Child Nutrition

| National Weighted Priority Ranks | Research Options |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 9 | Development and popularization of improved varieties of traditional food items rich in micronutrients (e.g., iron rich millets): adoption of viable business models and modifying value and supply chains |
| 10 | Strategies to overcome barriers and improve implementation of WASH practices in the community with particular focus on poor, socially disadvantaged groups |
| 11 | Development of novel and innovative recipes of nutritious complementary and therapeutic feeds (RUTF) using locally available ingredients |
| 14 | Development and evaluation of a governance model for improving mother and child nutrition [e.g., setting up a multi-sectoral (including community representation) District Nutrition Board that oversees implementation and monitors the district nutrition programs particularly those focusing on women and children of poor and socially backward communities; making the Block Nutrition Development Plan operational as suggested by the Nutrition Coalition, etc.] |
| 15 | Developing strategies to overcome the barriers for mothers to exclusively breast feed their infants for six months within the existing socio-cultural and economic environments |
| 16 | Design context and culture specific nutritional interventions for preconception and postconception women to promote optimal fetal growth, reduce the risk of LBW (preterm and SGA) and to minimize the risk of fetal programming for obesity and other chronic diseases in later life |
| 17 | Process, impact and efficiency of current programs to ensure food and nutrition security for poor and socially backward communities |
| 18 | Modifying existing IFA supplementation program to include Vit B12 and evaluating effectiveness, affordability and impact on prevalence of anemia in different age groups |

Priority Research Options in Child Nutrition

| National Weighted Priority Ranks | Research Options |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 20 | Designing and evaluating curricula for skill building and their retention for health personnel to promote nutrition of women of reproductive age group, adolescents and EBF-IYCF for infants and children in community and health facilities |
| 22 | Process, impact and economic evaluation of the programmatic services provided through the public health care system for prevention and control of nutritional anemia in different age groups: National Nutritional Anemia Prophylaxis Programme and nutrition supplementation services |
| 27 | Feasibility of combating childhood malnutrition in India in a nation-wide programmatic framework |
| 42 | Developing point-of-care diagnostics for childhood obesity and chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes mellitus, hypertension, etc) for use by frontline workers and primary care physicians |