

MusQan Initiative: Challenges and Opportunities

Dear Editor,

I am writing to highlight the essential MusQan Quality Improvement program in healthcare. This initiative systematically monitors, assesses, and enhances care for children from birth to 12 years, aiming to reduce preventable newborn and child morbidity and mortality.^[1]

MusQan addresses all critical aspects of a child's development, including physical, mental, and social well-being. This holistic approach is vital, especially in India, where public health facilities are the primary healthcare providers for many.^[1,2]

MusQan's multipronged strategy focuses on improving Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs), Newborn Stabilization Units (NBSUs), Postnatal Wards, Pediatric Outpatient Departments (OPDs), and Nutritional Rehabilitation Centers. By adhering to stringent quality standards, MusQan delivers swift, tangible improvements.^[3,4]

MusQan supports healthcare facilities with Rapid Improvement (RI) cycles, aided by state and district teams, allowing flexible local needs addressing. More than a program, it elevates childcare standards in public facilities across India. By fostering continuous improvement and holistic child development, MusQan significantly enhances future generations' health and well-being.^[4,5]

Challenges

Implementing MusQan faces critical challenges: staff, equipment, and financial shortages in public health facilities; ensuring comprehensive training for healthcare workers; significant investment and planning for upgrading rural facilities; robust data systems for quality monitoring; resistance to new protocols from healthcare providers; and securing long-term sustainability with continuous funding and support.^[5,6]

Opportunities

MusQan aims to significantly improve child healthcare in India through several key strategies. It enhances care quality to reduce newborn and child morbidity and mortality rates, supports holistic child development, and strengthens healthcare systems by implementing rigorous standards. MusQan also enhances healthcare workers' skills through training programs, engages local communities in addressing healthcare needs, and promotes innovation through Rapid Improvement cycles. Successful implementation could influence national policies, advocating for increased support and investment in child healthcare services nationwide.^[6]

Conclusion

The MusQan Quality Improvement program aims to enhance care for children from birth to 12 years, reducing preventable morbidity and mortality. Despite challenges, strategic planning, resource allocation, and community involvement can significantly improve child healthcare in India, leading to better health outcomes nationwide.

Acknowledgments

The author is extremely grateful to the referenced authors for their invaluable research, which allowed us to compile the conclusions presented in this review.

Authors' contribution

Dr Ram Kumar Garg has wrote this Letter to editor.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

Ram K. Garg

Department of Community Health Nursing, Teerthanker Mahaveer University, College of Nursing Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, India

Address for correspondence:

Dr. Ram K. Garg,

Department of Community Health Nursing, Teerthanker Mahaveer University, College of Nursing Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, India.

E-mail: ram.nursing@tmu.ac.in

Received: 24 Jun 24 **Accepted:** 01 Jul 24

Published: 26 Feb 25

References

- Deorari AK, Kumar P, Chawla D, Thukral A, Goel S, Bajaj R, *et al.* Improving the quality of health care in special neonatal care units of India: A before and after intervention study. *Glob Health Sci Pract* 2022;10:e2200085. doi: 10.9745/GHSP-D-22-00085.
- Venugopal S, Patil RB, Thukral A, Koganti RA, Kumar DI V, Sankar MJ, *et al.* Feasibility, sustainability, and effectiveness of the implementation of "facility-team-driven" approach for improving the quality of newborn care in South India. *Indian J Pediatr* 2023;90:974-81.
- Sumita G. MusQan: Ensuring Child Friendly Services in Public Healthcare Facilities. Available from: https://qps.nhsrindia.org/sites/default/files/202207/MusQan_for_Quality_Nodal%20_July2022.pdf. [Last accessed on 2024 Jun 30].
- Hanson C, Singh S, Zamboni K, Tyagi M, Chamarty S, Shukla R, *et al.* Care practices and neonatal survival in 52 neonatal intensive care units in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, India: A cross-sectional study. *PLoS Med* 2019;16:e1002860. doi: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1002860.
- Creanga AA, Srikantiah S, Mahapatra T, Das A, Sonthalia S, Moharana PR, *et al.* Statewide implementation of a quality

improvement initiative for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health and nutrition in Bihar, India. *J Glob Health* 2020;10:021008. doi: 10.7189/jogh.10.021008.

6. MusQan, National Health Systems Resource Centre. 2021. Nhsrindia.org. Available from: <https://qps.nhsrindia.org/musqan>. [Last accessed on 2024 Jun 30].

This is an open access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

Access this article online	
Quick Response Code: 	Website: www.ijpvmjournal.net/www.ijpm.ir
	DOI: 10.4103/ijpvm.ijpvm_194_24

How to cite this article: Garg RK. MusQan initiative: Challenges and opportunities. *Int J Prev Med* 2025;16:11.

© 2025 International Journal of Preventive Medicine | Published by Wolters Kluwer - Medknow