

IGNOU launches two new programmes in health sciences

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indira Gandhi National Open University's (IGNOU) School of Health Sciences (SOHS) has launched PG Diploma in HIV Medicine and Post Doctoral Certificate in Dialysis Medicine scheduled from July 2011, in collaboration with National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) respectively. Both these programmes have been fully sponsored by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Govt. of India.

"Because of acute shortage

of qualified medical experts in dialysis medicine/ kidney diseases, most of these patients are not diagnosed in time and suffer irreversible kidney damage. To bridge this gap, SOHS has developed a one year Post Doctoral Certificate Programme in Dialysis Medicine for Physicians & Pediatricians with MD/ DNB qualification in collaboration with the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India. This programme will be launched in 15 Tertiary Care Hospitals/ Programme Study Centres (PSCs) across the country including AIIMS, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, RML Hospital to name a few," said Dr. Tapan K Jena, Professor, SOHS, IGNOU.

The maximum number of students in each PSC batch will be not more than six. About 50 per cent seats will be filled through sponsorship by Director General of Health Services. The candidates should hold a degree of Doctor of Medicine (MD)/DNB in Medicine or Pediatrics. A six months residential training in one of the identified Programme Study Centres (PSC) will be provided. Another six months of training will be provided through distance mode involving tele-

conferencing, web board discussion, etc. The students will be provided with self-learning print material and audio-video cassettes. There will be routine and term-end examinations both in theory and practical components.

The objective of this programme is to imbibe comprehensive knowledge on basics of nephrology as related to detail of haemodialysis, reasonably adequate for peritoneal dialysis and brief of renal transplant; handle temporary vascular access at the time of need; dialyse stable patients adequately and safely on long-term basis and anticipate potential complications; to recognise and handle emergencies related to dialysis.

The National AIDS Control Board has also approved the development of a one-year PG Diploma Programme in HIV Medicine in collaboration with the university. The basic objective of this programme is to imbibe comprehensive knowledge on basics of HIV as related to details of management of HIV/AIDS in tertiary care set up, manage all complications as well as opportunistic infections due to HIV/AIDS at the time of need and to recognise and handle emergencies related to HIV/AIDS and its com-

plication. Its course contents include basics of HIV Infection, National AIDS Control Programme, Systemic Involvement in HIV and STI, Management of HIV/AIDS, Basics Practical and Clinic Practical.

The Maximum number of students in each PSC will be not more than 20 in each batch. About 60 to 70 per cent seats will be filled through sponsorship by NACO. For the first year, the selection will be done on the basis of a merit list prepared by the respective Regional Centre as per following guidelines: preference will be given to those having MD degree; more weightage could be given to those in Medicine/ Obst and Gynae/ Paediatric/ PSM/ Microbiology; second preference to those having a recognised diploma degree and third preference to those having experience working in HIV/AIDS sector.

The last date for submission of application form is 31st August, 2011. The applicant should submit the application form to Programme Coordinator, Room No 149, D-Block, Raman Bhawan, New Academic Complex, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068 (with the name of the programme at the top of the envelop).