

## PROJECT BRIEF

This study will develop a service delivery model for diagnosing and treating CVD and diabetes. It focuses on establishing a systematic screening, treatment and referral process in primary health care facilities in Bangladesh.

### Background

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) and diabetes are prevalent in Bangladesh. Among CVDs, hypertension and ischemic heart disease are the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in the country. However, the majority of patients with these diseases go undetected, with only a small percentage of CVD-diabetes patients being cared for according to the internationally recommended guidelines. These patients are mostly in specialist clinics such as affiliated and subaffiliated branches of Bangladesh Diabetic Samity (BADAS), Heart Foundation hospitals, and in other privately managed specialist centres/clinics, which accounts for the high care costs of CVDs and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). For the socio-economically disadvantaged, the out-of-pocket expenses for CVDs and NCDs can be catastrophic.

### Study aim

To develop and evaluate a service delivery model for delivering quality care to CVD and diabetes patients at primary health care (PHC) facilities.

### Objectives

1. Establish a systematic screening and care process to enhance early diagnosis of CVD and diabetes in selected PHC facilities;
2. Improve treatment and follow-up of CVD and diabetes through enabled primary care arrangements;
3. Develop and adapt case management guidelines, tools and training modules;
4. Build capacity of doctors, nurses and paramedics at the selected PHC facilities for early diagnosis and effective treatment of CVD and diabetes; and
5. Test and evaluate guidelines and tools for further scale up.



### Researchers:

Dr Rumana Huque, ARK Foundation; Prof. AHM. Enayet Hussain, Line-director, NCDC Programme, Prof. A.K Azad Khan, and Dr. Bishwajit, BADAS Bangladesh

### In-country partners:

- Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Bangladesh Diabetic Samity (BADAS)

### Project setting:

Manikganj, Sirajganj, Sylhet and Kishoreganj Districts.

**Project duration:** April 2014 to March 2016

## The study

This study will be carried out in 8 urban health centres with referral links to and from affiliated branches of BADAS. Patient cohorts, once registered at the participating facilities, will be assessed for their plasma glucose and blood pressure levels. Other outcome measures include assessing life-style modification, and drug side effects and/or disease complications. Referrals to district hospitals and branches of BADAS will be collected and assessed.

## Guidelines and tools:

All guidelines and tools will be appropriate for low-resource settings and will include:

- A Case Management Desk Guide for improving quality of care of CVD and diabetes management (includes hypertension, hyper-cholesterol and lifestyle modifications)
- Training modules for doctors, nurses, and paramedic staff (including a facilitators' guide)
- Referral forms
- Behaviour change/communication materials for patient/community education
- Recording and reporting forms and tools, such as card and registers
- Guidelines for monitoring and follow-up of CVD and diabetes patients

## Sharing and scaling up the research findings

Components of the service delivery model will be presented and discussed in at a series of policy discussions and dissemination workshops involving high level policy makers, researchers, programme managers, and national and international agencies.

ARK Foundation will work with Bangladesh Diabetic Samity (BADAS) and the Directorate General of Health Services to scale up the service delivery model at PHC facilities where appropriate.

For more information about this project, email Saif Iqbal at [saif.iqbalbd@gmail.com](mailto:saif.iqbalbd@gmail.com)

Visit us at: [www.arkfoundationbd.org](http://www.arkfoundationbd.org)

## About ARK Foundation

[ARK Foundation](#) is a non-government, non-political and not for profit organisation. It is registered with the Registrar of Joint Stock Company of Bangladesh as a society and also with the NGO Affairs Bureau of Bangladesh.

ARK Foundation works closely with government organisations, national and international NGOs, development partners and universities to achieve its vision and mission.

ARK Foundation aims to accelerate the process of socio-economic development of Bangladesh through research, new knowledge and evidence-based solutions to create a positive impact on human life, especially for women, children and underprivileged groups.

We specialise in 4 areas:

1. Research and Development (R&D)
2. Capacity Building, Education and Training (CBET)
3. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
4. Behaviour Change Communication and Advocacy (BCCA)

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