

IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Surgery Support Program

01 Project Details

Project Number:	10504
Project Title:	Surgery Support Program
Project Duration:	1st June, 2022 – 31st August, 2023
Approved Budget:	INR 100 Lakhs
Major Stakeholders:	Caregivers of the beneficiaries, Doctors, Nurses, Hospital Administrative Staff and Implementation Team Member
Location:	Mumbai, Pune and Aurangabad
Implementation Agency:	Ekam Foundation
Assessment Agency:	CSRBOX

World Health Organization (WHO) states that 800 million people allocate at least 10 per cent of their household budgets to health expenses for themselves, a sick child, or another family member. For nearly 100 million individuals, these expenses are substantial enough to drive them into extreme poverty.¹ The National Health Profile, released by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, reports that nearly 25% of rural households and 20% of urban families in India are compelled to incur debt or sell assets to cover hospitalisation expenses.² This underscores the critical need for accessible and affordable surgical support to alleviate the economic impact of medical expenses.

The Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd. (BHFL) initiative is aimed at enabling patients from underprivileged backgrounds to get a second chance at life by offering free surgical and medical support. The support provided under this programme covered paediatric surgeries and treatment.



Child undergoing treatment



Caregivers at Ekam supported Hospital

¹ World Bank and WHO. (2017). Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2017 Global Monitoring Report, Half the world lacks access to essential health services, and 100 million still pushed into extreme poverty because of health expenses

² Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. (2017). National Health Policy 2017, pg.195

02 Key Activities

Pre-surgery Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification and screening of 226 children by Ekam-supported hospitals.• Sanctioning of 226 cases to Ekam Foundation for providing financial support.
Treatment Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducting surgeries/treatment for 226 children including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Congenital Heart Surgeries (81)○ Abdominal Surgeries (47)○ Cancer Treatments (28)○ NICU, PICU & ICU Support (20)○ Orthopaedic Surgeries (14)○ Medical care drug and High-end Investigations (8)○ Neck, ENT and Eye Surgeries (7)○ Neurological Surgeries (7)○ Liver/Kidney Transplants (2)○ Other Surgeries (12)• Making payments to 40 Ekam-supported hospitals
Post-surgery Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post-surgery follow-up for 226 children including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Follow-ups through Ekam-supported hospitals○ Telephonic follow-ups○ Follow-ups through home visits

03 Key Impact

The OECD-DAC framework was used for the impact assessment of the healthcare initiative: -

Relevance:

This parameter measures the extent to which the project aligns with the community's expressed needs.

- 78% of caregivers had an annual income below INR 1.5 Lakh, hence could not afford the cost of their child's treatment
- 62% of the caregivers travelled for more than 200km highlighting distance barriers for accessing affordable healthcare
- The major paediatric surgeries covered under this programme were congenital heart disease (40%), abdominal surgeries (15%) and cancer treatment (13%).

Coherence:

This parameter measures the project's alignment with and impact on other interventions.

- 21 Hospitals from Mumbai, 9 Hospitals from Pune and 10 Hospitals from Aurangabad have been supported through this programme.
- Aligned to schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (Central Government) and Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Aarogya Yojana (State Government), providing financial support to caregivers who cannot afford their child's surgery treatment.

- Aligned with SDG-1 (No Poverty), SDG-3 (Good Health and Well Being) and SDG-13 (Partnership for the Goals) by providing essential surgical healthcare to children overcoming financial barriers.
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Effectiveness:

This parameter measures the intervention's success in achieving its objectives and outcomes.

- 87% of children undergoing surgeries had no complications post-surgery.
 - 97% of children undergoing surgeries successfully recovered.
 - 72% of children received follow-up post-surgery.
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Efficiency:

This parameter measures the intervention's delivery of results in an economical and timely way.

- Financial support of approx. INR 40,000 was provided to the caregivers, through this programme for surgeries costing up to approx. INR 2 Lakhs. Hence, this programme has effectively eased the financial burden on caregivers, ensuring better access to essential surgeries and improving overall healthcare support.
 - 65% of surgical cases of children were resolved in a single sitting of surgery.
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Impact:

This parameter measures the intervention's broader impact.

- 80% of children played for 4 hours or more compared to 5% before the surgery
 - 52% of children consumed 4 meals or more after the surgery compared to none before the surgery
 - 82% of children slept for 9 hours or more after the surgery compared to 3% before the surgery
 - 79% of children suffering from congenital heart disease showed improvement in their condition compared to their pre-surgery condition, which included blue-coloured nails or skin.
 - 50% of children suffering from cancer showed improvement in their interaction with friends post-surgery.
 - 34% of children suffering from eye and ENT issues no longer required medications post-surgery, such as nasal sprays or eye/ear drops, which they had taken before the surgery.
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Sustainability:

This parameter measures the sustainability of the intervention's benefits.

- 74% of children rated their health condition to be better post-surgery in comparison to before the surgery.
 - The programme successfully enhanced the long-term quality of life for children and has played a significant role in dispelling myths about surgeries and treatments.
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