

Situational Analysis on Capabilities of Primary Medical Care Institutes
Towards
Delivery of Primary Medical Care

Northern Province

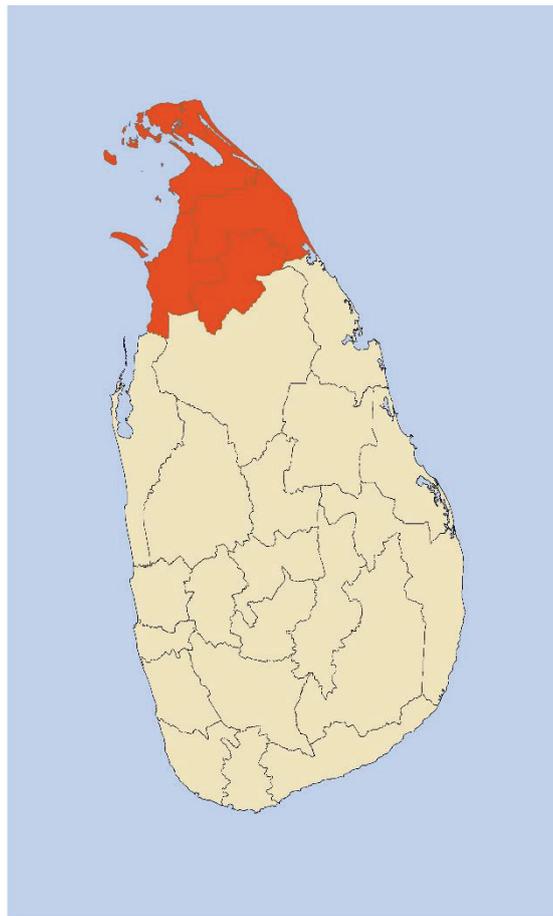
Reorganizing Primary Health Care in Sri Lanka

Preserving our progress, preparing our future

Primary HealthCare System Strengthening Project (PSSP)

May 2023

Situational Analysis on Capabilities of Primary Medical Care Institutes
Towards
Delivery of Primary Medical Care



Northern Province

Acknowledgment

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Abbreviation

DHA	Divisional Hospital Type A
DHB	Divisional Hospital Type B
DHC	Divisional Hospital Type C
DLR	Disbursement Link Result
ETU	Emergency treatment Unit
FFC	Friends of facility Committees
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HHIMS	Hospital Health Information Management System
HIMS	Health Information Management System
LA	Local Authority
MLT	Medical Laboratory Technologists
MoH	Ministry of Health
MO	Medical Officer
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NO	Nursing Officer
OPD	Out Patients Division
PDHS	Provincial Director of Health Services
PHC	Primary health Care
PHNO	Public Health Nursing Officers
PMCI	Primary Medical Care Institute
PMCI	Primary Medical Care Institutes
PMCU	Primary Medical Care Unit
PSSP	Primary Health Care System Strengthening Project
RDHS	Regional Directors of Health Services
RMO	Registered Medical Officer
TB	Tuberculosis

Executive Summary

As per the agreement signed between the government of Sri Lanka and the World Bank in 2018 for reorganization of Primary Care System a province wise situational analysis was expected to be conducted two times; one before the implementation of the project in 2019 and the other in 2023. This survey was conducted in accordance with the agreement.

Following this situational analysis, it has been made very clear that certain remarkable gaps existed in 2019 have been corrected to greater extent. For example, the number of primary medical care institute not having proper ETUs ie 447 in 2019 has been reduced to 255 this year. Further a surplus of 226 drugstores, 198 dispensaries and 91 adequate waiting areas have been established, addressing the gaps. In 2019 accessibility to safe drinking water in OPDs and clinics was not available in 339 hospitals which has been satisfactorily reduced to 210 in 2023. Similarly, number of hospitals not having proper toilets to patients has been reduced from 305 to 168. This indicates that the situation analysis at provincial level has induced to develop a good action plan for investment which need further improvement.

Out of 102 PMCII in Northern province 99 have responded during the data collection. Survey included the following areas of concerns which are directly related to the responsive and qualitative primary care services delivered to people. Relevant questions were included in the questioner with regard to Current Status of Water Supply, Status of Electricity and Backup Generators, Availability of waste disposal methods and Clinical waste management, Physical space and Infrastructure at Primary Care Institutions , Services for curative and preventive care, Availability of Staff Quarters and Current Status, Services readiness at the PMCII, Minimum preparedness for managing communicable diseases in epidemic nature, Medical equipment and other necessities for NCD screening and diagnosis, Human Resource Needs, Patient record system and referral mechanism, Internet connectivity, Laboratory Investigation Facilities, Drug Supply, Drug Storage Facilities, Citizen engagement committee and Grievances redress, Implementation and Analysis of Grievance Redress Mechanism.

Many areas, including infrastructure development utilities such as water supply and electricity, are showing improvements compared to the previous survey. However, certain areas such as human resources, ETU facilities, health staff quarters, accessibility to laboratory facilities, and internet connectivity, including health information systems, require priority attention in future development procedures. These areas are crucial for ensuring responsiveness and effectiveness in healthcare service delivery. By focusing on addressing these priority areas, future development efforts can further enhance the overall healthcare system and improve the quality of care provided to the population.

Introduction

A comprehensive gap analysis was conducted in year 2018 before implementing the PSSP activities in provinces. After four and half years approximately, a similar study was done to gather information on services and infrastructure across all hospitals in the province again. The purpose of this analysis was to identify gaps in various areas including infrastructure, service provision, equipment requirements, support services, human resources need, citizen engagement status, and gaps in health information systems even after a considerable investment done through the project implementation.

By conducting this gap analysis, valuable insights were obtained regarding the current state of healthcare facilities and services in the province. The identified gaps will serve as a base for developing action plans with targeted strategies to address the identified areas for improvement. This analysis plays a crucial role in enhancing the overall quality of healthcare delivery and ensuring the provision of efficient and effective services to meet the needs of the population.

Primary Medical care Institutions (PMCI) in Northern Province

Figures in the table below indicate the number of PMCI (DHA, DHB, DHC and PMCU) which have completed the questionnaire.

Table 1 Survey of Primary Medical Care Institutes: Completion and Response Rate

Row Labels	Divisional Hospital A	Divisional Hospital B	Divisional Hospital C	PMCU	Total	Response rate
Jaffna		5	18	17	40	100
Kilinochchi	1	1	6	5	13	100
Mannar		4	6	10	20	100
Mullaitivu	1	2	4	6	13	82
Vavuniya		1	7	5	13	93
Total	2	13	41	43	99	

Methodology

To achieve the DLR 3.3 in the Result Framework, during the pre-planning stage of the activity, several meetings were conducted with the provincial health authorities to obtain their insights and views to develop the data collection format compared with the previous format which was used in the year 2018. Based on the comments and insights, a draft questionnaire (Annexure 1) was developed and tested in the field. Thereafter all relevant Medical Officers in the PDHS office and three RDHS offices were educated on how to use the questionnaire effectively. The training aimed to ensure that the Medical Officers have understood the purpose of the questionnaire, its specific questions, and the proper application for data collection.

The training provided guidance on administering the questionnaire, including instructions on how to approach respondents, how to record their responses accurately, and how to feed the collected information into Google Form.

Collected data were subjected to a data cleaning process to ensure accuracy and consistency. This involved reviewing the data for any errors, inconsistencies, or missing values, and correcting or removal was affected as necessary.

Once the data cleaning was completed, the cleaned data were coded and tabulated to organize it in a structured format suitable for analysis. This tabulation involved arranging the data in rows and columns, with each row representing a respondent and each column representing a specific variable or question in the questionnaire.

The structured data set was analyzed by using statistical methods in SPSS and MS Excel to produce tables and graphs. Finally, the information derived from the analysis will be used for verification purposes.

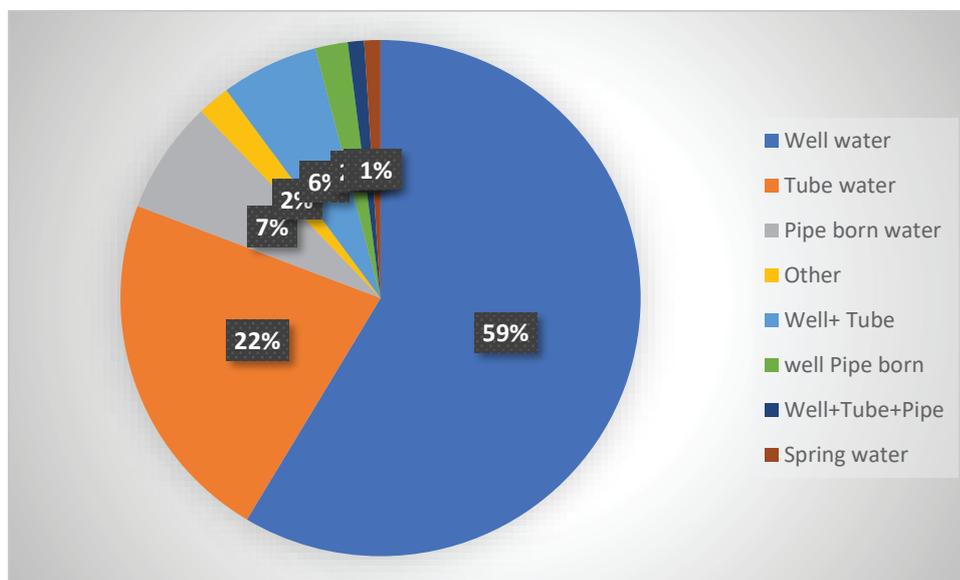
Results

Services and Infrastructure

Current Status of Water Supply

Table 2 Current Status of Water Supply

RDHS area	Well water	Tube water	Pipe born water	Other	Well+ Tube	well Pipe born	Well+Tube +Pipe	Spring water	Total
Jaffna	28	8	1	2		1			40
Kilinochchi	6	2	1		3			1	13
Mannar	3	8	5		2	1	1		20
Mullaitivu	12	1							13
Vavuniya	9	3			1				13
Total	58	22	7	2	6	2	1	1	99



Based on the provided information, the majority of hospitals, comprising 59% of the total, used well water as their primary source for day-to-day activities. Additionally, 22% of hospitals relied on tube well water, while 7% utilized the town water supply for their water needs. Some hospitals used alternative methods to fulfill their water requirements, indicating potential gaps or areas that may require attention. Ensuring adequate access to clean and safe water sources is crucial for maintaining hygienic standards in therapeutic interventions within healthcare facilities.

Current status of Well water (Protected or Unprotected)

Table 3 Current status of Well water (Protected or Unprotected)

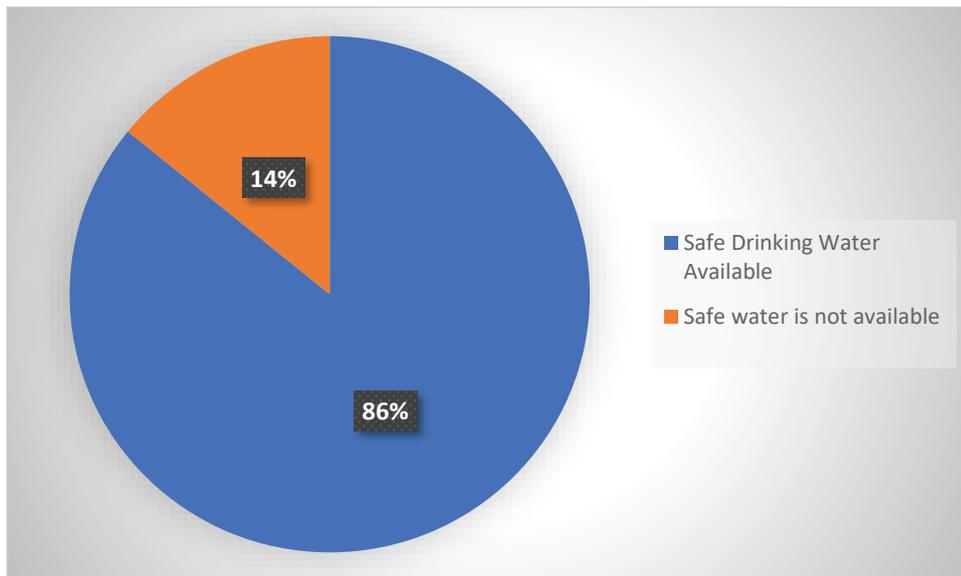
RDHS area	Protected	Unprotected	Total
Jaffna	28		28
Kilinochchi	3	3	6
Mannar	1	2	3
Mullaitivu	6	6	12
Vavuniya	9		9
Total	47	11	58

Based on the provided information, it appears that in Jaffna, 81% of the water used is sourced from protected wells. In other areas, there is a similar reliance on unprotected well water for their water needs.

Safe drinking Water availability in OPD and Clinic area

Table 4 Safer drinking Water availability in OPD and Clinic area

RDHS area	Safe Drinking Water Available	Safe water is not available	Total
Jaffna	40		40
Kilinochchi	9	4	13
Mannar	13	7	20
Mullaitivu	10	3	13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	85	14	99



Ensuring the availability of safe drinking water in the outpatient department (OPD) and clinic areas is essential for maintaining the health and well-being of patients, visitors, and healthcare providers 85 (86%) PMCII Provide safe drinking water while 14 (14%) PMCII, specifically 4 Kilinochchi, 7 Mannar, 3 Mullaitivu currently do not have access to safe drinking water in OPD and Clinics.

Status of Electricity and Backup Generators

Table 5 Status of Electricity and Backup Generators

RDHS area	DHA	DHB	DHC	PMCU	Total
Main Line	2	12	41	43	92
Not respondent		1			1
Total	2	13	41	43	99

Availability of Backup Generator - Divisional Hospitals

Table 6 Availability of Backup Generator - Divisional Hospitals

RDHS area	Available	Not Available	Total
Jaffna	20	3	23
Vavuniya	8		8
Kilinochchi	8		8
Mannar	9	1	10
Mullaitivu	7		7
Total	52	4	56

Current Condition of Backup Generators - Divisional Hospitals

Table 7 Availability of Backup Generator - Divisional Hospitals

RDHS area	Working	Not Working	Total
Jaffna	18	2	20
Vavuniya	8		8
Kilinochchi	6	2	8
Mannar	10		10
Mullaitivu	7		7
Total	49	4	53

It appears that all PMCII (except those not reported) are connected to the main electricity line, ensuring a reliable power supply. However, there are some divisional hospitals that do not have backup generators, which may pose a potential risk during power outages or emergencies. Out of the available generators in 52 hospitals, 4 are not in working condition.

Immediate attention should be paid to the fact that four generators are not functioning properly. It is crucial to improve the functionality of these generators to ensure they are in good working condition.

And also, attention should be given to ensure the availability of generators in the Jaffna and Mannar areas.

Availability of waste disposal methods and Clinical waste management

Table 8 Waste Disposal Methods

RDHS area	Segregation Done	Not Done	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Vavuniya	13			13
Kilinochchi	8	5		13
Mannar	14	5	1	20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Total	88	10	1	99

Table 9 Methods of Handling Clinical Waste

RDHS area	Burning	Incinerating	Sending to incinerator Available Hospital	Sending to LAs	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna		40				40
Vavuniya			13			13
Kilinochchi	3		5	5		13
Mannar	5	2	10	2	1	20
Mullaitivu	1	1	11			13
Total	9	43	39	7	1	99

According to the provided information, it is evident that waste segregation methods are being followed in 88 PMCII, while 10 PMCII do not adhere to such practices. A significant number of PMCII (39) are sending their clinical waste to nearby hospitals for incineration, whereas 7 hospitals are sending their clinical waste to the local authority.

Physical space and Infrastructure at Primary Care Institutions

Physical infrastructure of Primary Healthcare Institutions (PMCII), including outpatient departments (OPDs) and clinics, should possess a specific physical space in accordance with spatial norms outlined in the circular 01-29/2018 dated 29.06.2018 issued by the Ministry of Health (MoH) to effectively deliver primary healthcare services. There are some common requirements for PMCII: waiting areas, Space for dispensary, drug stores, Laboratory, Rest rooms for staff, space for toilets etc. Based on the findings compared to the specific requirements for PMCII, provincial health authorities should analyze the space requirements considering the given circular, particularly focusing on waiting area, Space for laboratory, Dispensary, drug stores and any other places according to priorities. Out of the total of 99 PMCII, 93 have adequate waiting areas for the public, while 3 hospitals do not meet the space requirements as specified in the circular. Additionally, there are 2 PMCU's that do not have waiting area facilities at all. Accordingly, the following tables show the status of different service areas: availability/non availability, adequacy of space in PMCII.

Table 10 Availability of waiting area the Patient

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Vavuniya	12	1			13
Kilinochchi	12		1		13
Mannar	16	2	1	1	20
Mullaitivu	13				13
Total	93	3	2	1	99

Table 11 Space adequacy for Dispensary

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Vavuniya	13			13
Kilinochchi	11	1	1	13
Mannar	17	2	1	20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Total	94	3	2	99

Space for Drug Stores

Table 12 Space adequacy for Dispensary

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Vavuniya	12	1		13
Kilinochchi	9		4	13
Mannar	14	4	2	20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Total	88	5	6	99

Space for Restroom for Medical Officer

Table 13 Space for Restroom for Medical Officer

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	21		19		40
Vavuniya	9		4		13
Kilinochchi	6	1	6		13
Mannar	7		13		20
Mullaitivu	8		4	1	13
Total	51	1	46	1	99

Restroom for Nursing Officers

Table 14 Restroom for Nursing Officers

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	9		31		40
Vavuniya	7		6		13
Kilinochchi	6		7		13
Mannar	6	2	11	1	20
Mullaitivu	5		7	1	13
Total	33	2	62	2	99

Restroom for Other Staff

Table 15 Restroom for Other Staff

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	14		26		40
Vavuniya	10		3		13
Kilinochchi	1		12		13
Mannar	7	2	11		20
Mullaitivu	8		3	2	13
Total	40	2	55	2	99

Toilet facilities for patients

Table 16 Toilet facilities for patients

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	39	1			40
Kilinochchi	11	1	1		13
Mannar	14	3	3		20
Mullaitivu	10			3	13
Vavuniya	13				13
Total	87	5	4	3	99

Space for a meeting Room

Table 17 Space for a meeting Room

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	39	1			40
Kilinochchi	6		7		13
Mannar	2	2	16		20
Mullaitivu	4		7	2	13
Vavuniya	13				13
Total	64	3	30	2	99

Space for Pantry Area

Table 18 Space Pantry Area

RDHS area	Adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	34	6		40
Kilinochchi	7	6		13
Mannar	5	14	1	20
Mullaitivu	2	8	3	13
Vavuniya	11	2		13
Total	59	36	4	99

Services for curative and preventive care

To enhance delivery of curative and preventive care in Primary Health Care Institutes where facilities are insufficient or nonexistent, it is essential to improve the required facilities and spaces. This will ensure that the PMCII in the district can effectively meet the healthcare needs of the community. The table indicates that out of the 99 PMCII assessed, 84 of them have sufficient space for emergency care in their ETU rooms. However, there are 3 PMCII that lack adequate space, and 11 PMCII have indicated that they do not have available ETU facilities to deliver emergency care.

In light of this, provincial health authorities should take immediate action to establish ETU spaces, even at the smallest centers such as PMCU, to ensure the provision of emergency care.

Dental Room Facilities

Table 19 Dental Room Facilities

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Kilinochchi	5	1	7		13
Mannar	8	2	9	1	20
Mullaitivu	6		7		13
Vavuniya	6		7		13
Total	65	3	30	1	99

ETU Room/ Space for Emergency Care

Table 20 ETU room/ Space for emergency care

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Kilinochchi	10		3		13
Mannar	9	2	8	1	20
Mullaitivu	13				13
Vavuniya	12	1			13
Total	84	3	11	1	99

Dressing Room/ Space for Wound Care

Table 21 Dressing room/ space for wound care

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Kilinochchi	11		2		13
Mannar	16	2	1	1	20
Mullaitivu	13				13
Vavuniya	11	2			13
Total	91	4	3	1	99

Injection Room Facilities

Table 22 Injection room facilities

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Kilinochchi	9		4		13
Mannar	12	1	7		20
Mullaitivu	10		2	1	13
Vavuniya	8		5		13
Total	79	1	18	1	99

Clinic Rooms

Table 23 Clinic Rooms

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	6		7	13
Mannar	5	3	12	20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Vavuniya	10		3	13
Total	74	3	22	99

Office Space for PHMs

Table 24 Office Space for PHMs

RDHS area	Adequate	Not adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Kilinochchi	5		8		13
Mannar	4	2	14		20
Mullaitivu	4		6	3	13
Vavuniya	9		4		13
Total	62	2	32	3	99

Space for breastfeeding

Table 25 Space for breastfeeding

RDHS area	Adequate	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	37	3		40
Kilinochchi	8	5		13
Mannar	2	18		20
Mullaitivu	5	6	2	13
Vavuniya	8	4	1	13
Total	60	36	3	99

Availability of Staff Quarters and Current Status

Staff quarters play a crucial role in ensuring uninterrupted healthcare services, particularly in remote rural areas. It is essential to have designated quarters for Medical Officers (MOO) and Nursing Officers (NOO) to enable them to provide uninterrupted services. However, the following tables indicate the existence of underutilized quarters. Specifically, 61 quarters are underutilized by MOO, 19 by NOO, and an additional 38 quarters by other staff categories. Moreover, there is a shortage of quarters availability for MOO (31), NOO (73), and other staff (47).

These findings highlight the need for provincial authorities to analyze the situation and prioritize the provision of appropriate facilities based on requirements. It is important to assess the specific needs of MOO, NOO, and other staff members and allocate quarters accordingly. By addressing these issues, provincial authorities can ensure that healthcare professionals have suitable accommodation to ensure their continuous service delivery in remote areas.

Quarters for MOO

Table 26 Quarters for MOO

RDHS area	fully Utilized	Under-Utilized	Not Available	Total
Jaffna	19		21	40
Kilinochchi	5	3	5	13
Mannar	16	1	3	20
Mullaitivu	12		1	13
Vavuniya	9	3	1	13
Total	61	7	31	99

Quarters for NOO

Table 27 Quarters for NOO

RDHS area	fully Utilized	Under-Utilized	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	4		34	2	40
Kilinochchi	2		10	1	13
Mannar	5		15		20
Mullaitivu	4		6	3	13
Vavuniya	4	1	8		13
Total	19	1	73	6	99

Any Other Quarters

Table 28 Any Other Quarters

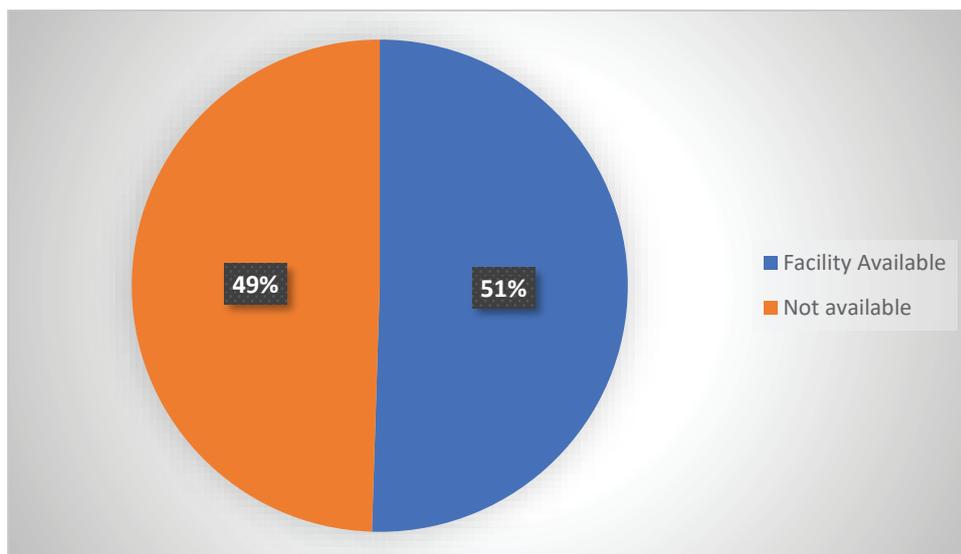
RDHS area	fully Utilized	Under-Utilized	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	19		21		40
Kilinochchi	4	1	8		13
Mannar	5	1	10	4	20
Mullaitivu	5		4	4	13
Vavuniya	5		4	4	13
Total	38	2	47	12	99

Services Readiness at the PMCII

Cervical Cancer Screening (PAP smear testing)

Table 29 Cervical Cancer Screening (PAP testing)

RDHS area	Facility Available	Not available	Total
Jaffna	31	9	40
Vavuniya	7	6	13
Kilinochchi	1	12	13
Mannar	2	18	20
Mullaitivu	9	4	13
Total	50	49	99



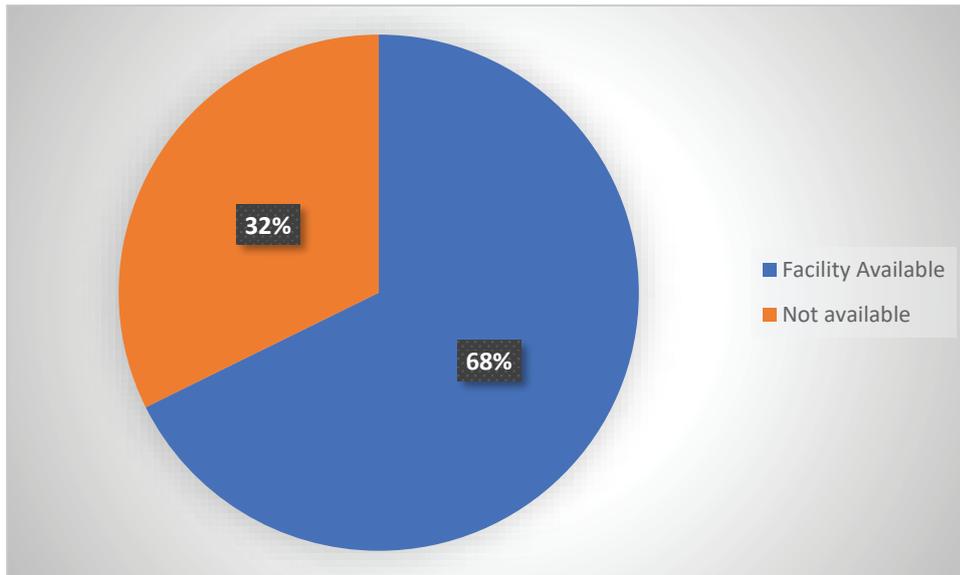
As per the provided information, the pie chart illustrates the distribution of PMCII with the service availability for Pap tests. Out of a total of 99 PMCII, 51% have reported having the availability of the service for PAP tests, while 49% of PMCII do not have such facilities.

These findings highlight the significant gap in the readiness for PAP tests within the PMCU if the Medical Officer of health needs to conduct well women clinic in the PMCU for cervical cancer screening.

-Facilities for Sputum Collection for TB Screening

Table 30 Facilities for sputum collection for TB screening

RDHS area	Facility Available	Not available	Total
Jaffna	39	1	40
Kilinochchi	3	10	13
Mannar	1	19	20
Mullaitivu	11	2	13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	67	32	99



According to the provided information, a significant majority of PMCII, specifically 68%, have the necessary facilities to collect sputum for TB screening. This is a positive indication of their ability to fulfill the required service and deliver essential screening for tuberculosis (TB) cases.

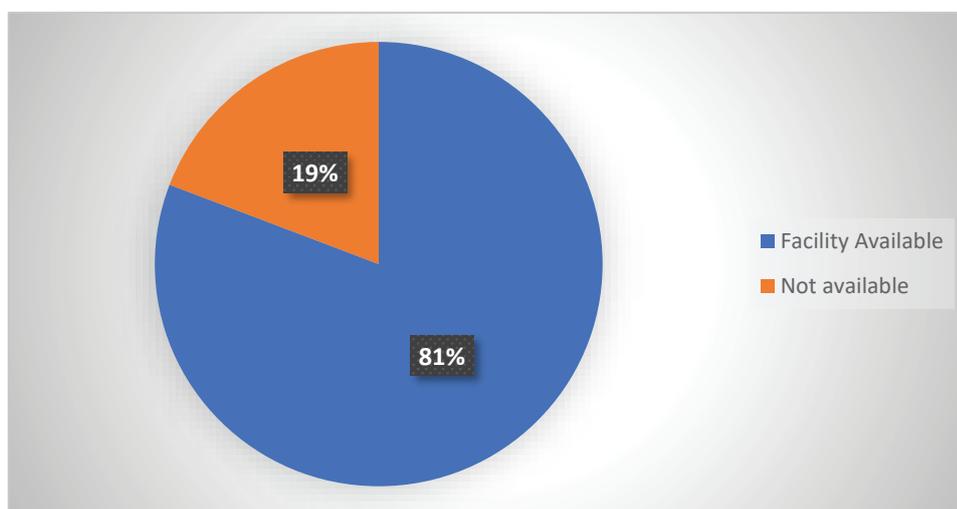
However, there is a smaller percentage of PMCII, accounting for 32%, that do not have the required facilities for sputum collection in TB screening. This highlights a substantial gap in infrastructure and resources, which can hinder the effective screening and diagnosis of tuberculosis cases.

In cases where sputum collection centers cannot be established in each PMCII, it is encouraged for the staff to identify individuals who need to be investigated for TB and refer them compulsorily to hospitals with the necessary facilities. This approach ensures that patients in need of TB screening can access the appropriate resources, even if their local PMCII lack the required facilities.

Facilities to Deliver Primary Oral Health Care Package

Table 31 Facilities to deliver primary oral health care package

RDHS area	Facility Available	Not available	Total
Jaffna	40		40
Kilinochchi	8	5	13
Mannar	9	11	20
Mullaitivu	10	3	13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	80	19	99



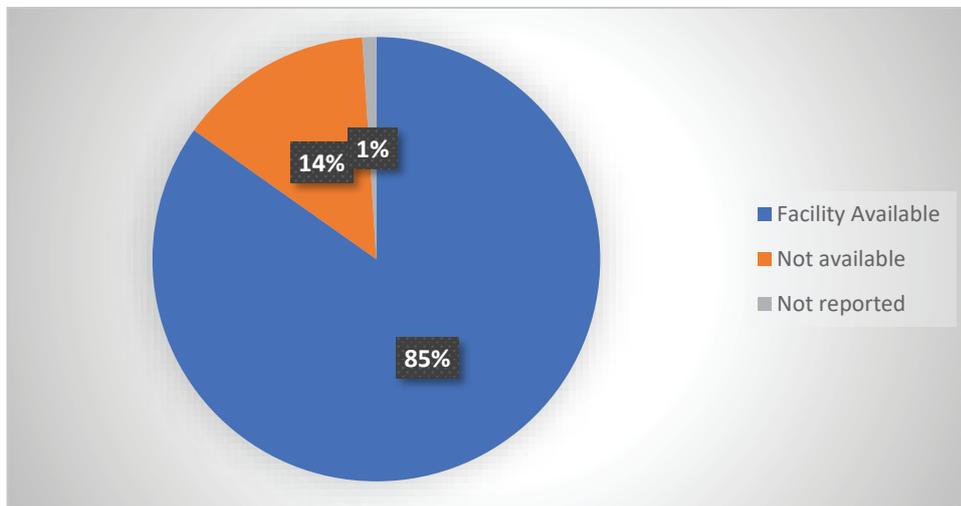
The table above shows that 81% of PMCII have the necessary facilities to deliver primary oral health care packages. This indicates that almost half of the PMCII surveyed are equipped with technology and Human Resource to provide essential oral health services to patients.

However, it is noteworthy to mention that 19% of PMCII do not have the required facilities to deliver primary oral health care at present. It will not appear as a significant gap in delivery of primary care but authorities are encouraged to pay the attention as oral health care is an essential commodity in any population.

Facilities to manage the basic emergency

Table 32 Facilities to manage the basic emergency

RDHS area	Facility Available	Not available	Not reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	8	5		13
Mannar	11	8	1	20
Mullaitivu	12	1		13
Vavuniya	13			13
Total	84	14	1	99



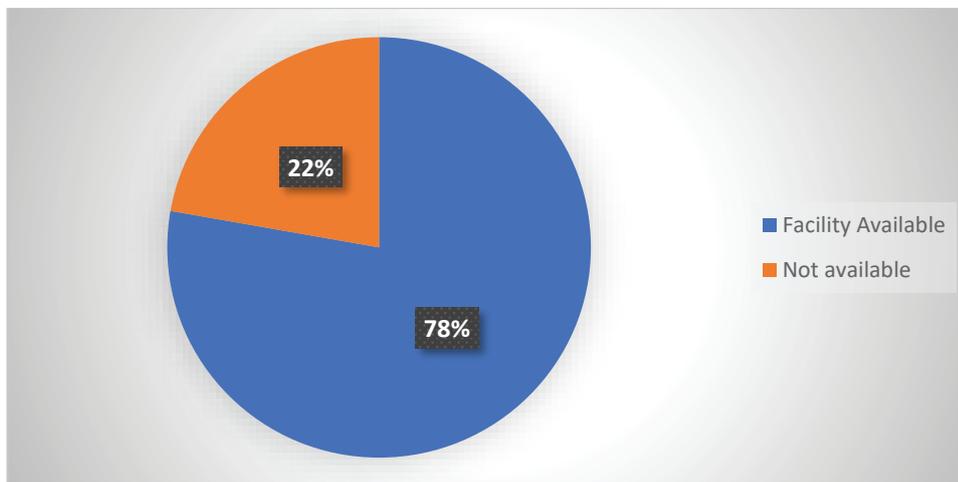
Based on the provided information, it is commendable to note that 85% of PMCII in the province are equipped to provide basic emergency care services to the public. This indicates a significant achievement in ensuring that a majority of PMCII have the necessary facilities and resources to handle emergency situations effectively.

However, 14% of PMCII still do not have the required facilities to fulfill the basic emergency care needs. Maximum efforts should be made to address this gap and ensure that all PMCII in the province are prepared to handle emergency situations promptly and efficiently.

Counseling Service Through the Hospital

Table 33 Counseling service through the hospital

RDHS area	Facility Available	Not available	Total
Jaffna	40		40
Kilinochchi	7	6	13
Mannar	10	10	20
Mullaitivu	7	6	13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	77	22	99



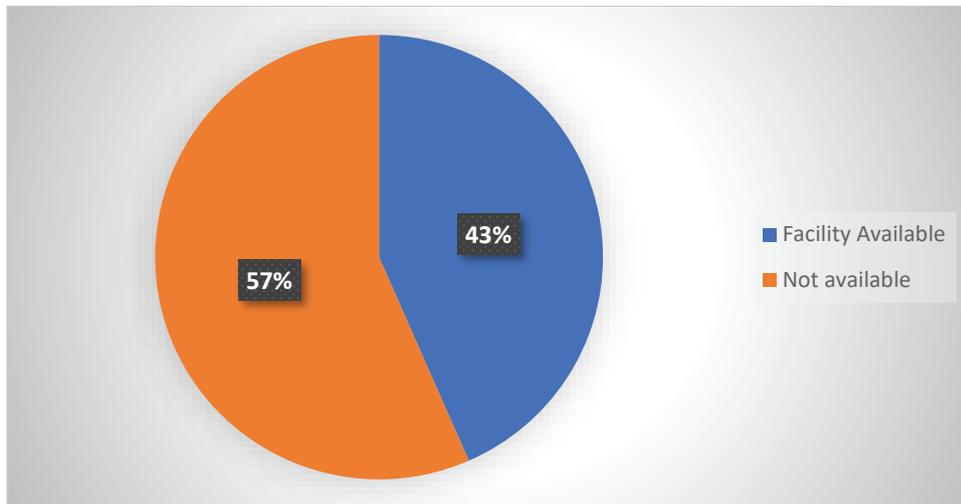
As per the table above, it is commendable to note that 78% of PMCII in the province provide counseling services to the public. This indicates a significant achievement in ensuring that a majority of PMCII have the necessary facilities and resources to handle counseling activities effectively.

However, it is also important to note that 22% of PMCII still do not have the such facilities to ensure better mental healthcare for people.

Providing Mental Health activities or conducting clinics

Table 34 Providing Mental Health activities or conducting clinics

RDHS area	Facility Available	Not available	Total
Jaffna	8	32	40
Kilinochchi	10	3	13
Mannar	10	10	20
Mullaitivu	12	1	13
Vavuniya	3	10	13
Total	43	56	99



Mental healthcare activities play a significant role in providing essential primary care services to individuals in need. However, the above information indicates that, it is of great concern that 57% of the PMCII surveyed do not have a dedicated mental healthcare clinics service. This indicates a significant gap in the availability of mental health services within the PMCII.

On a positive note, 43% of the PMCII have the necessary facilities to provide mental healthcare services

Minimum preparedness for managing communicable diseases in epidemic nature

It is essential that Primary Health Care Centers should have designated separate areas to effectively manage suspected patients with Covid-19 infection or other similar outbreaks. These dedicated spaces are required from the entry point of the hospital, to isolate the patients at risk and provide treatment by minimizing the transmissibility of the disease to non-infected people. Furthermore, PMCII should establish an area to display common signs and symptoms of the disease, separate triage areas to efficiently assess the health conditions of patients.

It is important for PMCII to display the major symptoms associated with communicable diseases or outbreaks. These displays raise awareness among patients and visitors, allowing them to recognize possible exposure so that they will take an alternative path without being mixed with others.

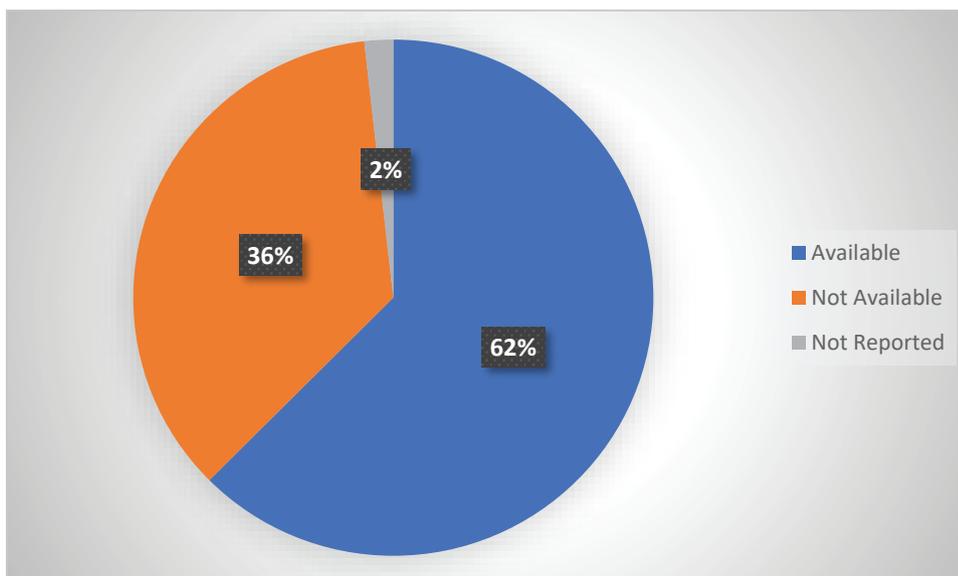
Specifically focusing on divisional hospitals, an analysis was conducted, which revealed the following findings: out of the 88 divisional hospitals, 35 have designated separate areas available, 35 have established triage areas, and 41 DHH display major symptoms at the entrance of their Outpatient Departments (OPDs). It is essential that all PMCII should improve their preparedness for managing outbreaks before the next epidemic comes to country.

By incorporating these measures into PMCII, healthcare facilities demonstrate their readiness to effectively manage and respond to communicable diseases or outbreaks, ensuring the safety of patients, visitors, and healthcare staff.

Separate Areas to Manage Suspected Patients of Covid-19 Infection or any other Epidemic

Table 35 Separate areas to manage suspected patients of Covid-19 infection or any other epidemic

RDHS Area	Available	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	23			23
Kilinochchi	2	6		8
Mannar	3	7		10
Mullaitivu		6	1	7
Vavuniya	7	1		8
Total	35	20	1	56



Separate Triage Area Sign posted at the entrance of all hospitals

Table 36 Separate triage area Sign posted at the entrance of all hospitals

RDHS Area	Available	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	23			23
Kilinochchi	2	6		8
Mannar	2	8		10
Mullaitivu		6	1	7
Vavuniya	8			8
Total	35	20	1	56

Major Symptoms/ Risk Factors should be displayed at the entrance All OPDs

Table 37 Major symptoms/ risk factors should be displayed at the entrance All OPDs

RDHS area	Available	Not Available	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	23			23
Kilinochchi	1	7		8
Mannar	4	6		10
Mullaitivu	6		1	7
Vavuniya	7		1	8
Total	41	13	2	56

Medical equipment and other necessities for NCD screening and diagnosis

The survey focused on identifying the availability and adequacy of essential medical equipment for NCD screening and diagnosis in PMCII. The results of the survey indicate that there are deficiencies and unavailability of certain items in some PMCII. In order to ensure uninterrupted PHC (Primary Healthcare) services, it is inevitable for provincial authorities to take action and provide the required items to the PMCII priority basis.

Table 38 Equipment and other essential items used for NCD screening and Diagnosis

Nu		Jaffna			Vavuniya			Kilinochchi			Mannar			Mullaitivu		
		A D	NA D	N A	A D	NA D	N A	A D	NA D	N A	A D	NA D	N A	A D	NA D	N A
1	BPA	40			13			12			19	1		13		
2	Microscope	6		34	3		10	1		11	5	1	14	1		12
3	Thermometer	40			13			10	3		12	8		13		
4	Nebulizer	40			13			11	1	1	13	2	5	12	1	
5	ECG machine	25		15	13			9		4	9		11	12		1

6	Oxygen supply cylinders	40			13			9		4	11		9	13		
7	Ophthalmoscope	27		13	13			6		7	10		10	11		1
8	Measurement tape & stadiometer	40			13			11		2	13	1	6	13		
9	Weighing machine	40			13			8	1	4	18		2	13		
10	Pulse oximeter	40			13			7	1	5	9	1	10	11		1
11	Glucometer and strips	40			13			11	1	1	11	5	3	13		
12	Cholesterol meter and strips	40			13			6	1	6	13	3	4	11		1
13	Urine ketone tests	18		22	5		4	1		12	2		18	3		6
14	Spaces for inhalers	40			13			4		8	5		15	9		2
15	Tuning fork	31		9	13			5		8	9	1	10	11		1
16	Snellen chart	38		2	13			8		5	12	1	7	11		1
17	Torch	39		1	13			9	1	3	12	3	5	12		
18	WHO/ISH prediction chart	40			13			3		9	9		11	2		1
19	Evidence based clinical protocols	40			2		10	8		12	3		1	13		

20	Flow charts with referral criteria	40			6		6	6	1	13	12		1	13		
21	Patient clinical records	40			12		1	16		4	13			13		
22	Medical information register	40			12		1	14		5	13			13		
23	Stethoscope	37		2	11	1	1	17	2	1	13			13		
24	Weight scale with or without height measuring	39			8	1	4	18	2		9			13		
25	Height measuring rod for children and adult	39			6		7	12	2	6	8		1	13		
26	Weighing scale for infants	39			8		5	9		11	4		3	13		
27	length board for infants and young children up to age 2 years	39			4		9	6		14	9		1	13		
28	examination bed	39			11	1	1	16	2	2	10			13		
29	tongue depressor	40			7		6	7	1	12	11		1	12		
30	Tender hammer (Knee hammer)	34		6	9		4	7		13	11		1	13		

AD: Adequate/ NAD: Not Adequate/ NA: Not available

Human Resource Needs

The primary healthcare policy specifies that every PMCI should have a minimum of two Doctors and one Nursing Officer to ensure the delivery and maintenance of quality PHC services for all citizens. In addition to Medical Officers and Nursing Officers, other essential categories of staff such as MLT and Dispenser, Pharmacist, PHNO, Development Officer etc. are required based on the capacity of the hospitals. This survey aimed to assess the availability in-position of graduate MOO and NOO in PMCII and examine the current staffing situation.

Availability of Medical Officers in position (Both MOO and RMO):

Within the Northern Province, specifically in the Jaffna and Mannar region, it has been identified that there are three hospitals that do not have any permanent MO, whether graduate MO or RMO. These hospitals rely on relief doctors managed by regional authorities.

Furthermore, among the surveyed PMCII, 57 out of 99 still do not meet the minimum requirement of having at least two Medical Officers. It is imperative to note that this shortage should be addressed by increasing the number of MOO in these PMCII.

Availability of Nursing Officers in position:

Nursing Officers play a vital role in strengthening PHC services and ensuring the provision of proper care to patients in the PMCI as well as domestically for those who cannot come, including tasks such as vaccination, blood drawing, and ETU care.

However, a significant concern arises within the Northern Province, where 67 PMCII do not have a single Nursing Officer in position. This issue demands immediate attention from the respective authorities to rectify the staffing gap.

In the following tables the availability of position indicates as follows;

- A- Not available single officer
- B- Available One
- C- Available two
- D- Available Three or more

Availability of Graduate Medical Officers

Table 39 Availability of Graduate Medical Officers

RDHS area	Graduate medical Officer				Total
	A(MO=0)	B(MO=1)	C(MO=2)	D(MO>3)	
Jaffna	4	16	13	7	40
Kilinochchi		9	2	2	13
Mannar	3	8	5	4	20
Mullaitivu		9	4		13
Vavuniya		5	8		13
Total	7	47	32	13	99

Availability of RMO/AMO

Table 40 Availability of RMO/AMO

RDHS Area	Registered Medical Officers		Total
	A(MO=0)	B(MO=1)	
Jaffna	33	7	40
Kilinochchi	12	1	13
Mannar	18	2	20
Mullaitivu	13		13
Vavuniya	12	1	13
Total	88	11	99

Availability of all medical Officers (Graduate MO and RMO)

Table 41 Availability of all medical Officers (Graduate MO and RMO)

RDHS area	MOO and RMO				Total
	A(MO=0)	B(MO=1)	A(MO=0)	B(MO=1)	
Jaffna	1	17	14	8	40
Kilinochchi		8	3	2	13
Mannar	2	9	4	5	20
Mullaitivu		9	4		13
Vavuniya		4	9		13
Total	3	47	34	15	99

Availability of Nursing Staff

Table 42 Availability of Nursing Staff

RDHS area	Nursing Officers				Total
	A	B	C	D	
Jaffna	32	1	2	5	40
Kilinochchi	6	1		6	13
Mannar	11	2	1	6	20
Mullaitivu	8	1	1	3	13
Vavuniya	10	1	1	1	13
Total	67	6	5	21	99

Others Essential Categories for Primary Healthcare Services

In addition to the Medical Officers (MOO) and Nursing Officers (NOO), several other categories such as Dental surgeons, MLT, Dispenser, Pharmacist, Development Officer and SKS etc. are required to ensure effective and comprehensive Primary Healthcare (PHC) services. Respective authorities should take necessary actions to mobilize these cadres and address the issue of above categories depending on the specific needs, services, and resources of each Primary Healthcare Center (PMCI) by carefully assessing the requirements of each PHC center. It is essential for the authorities to consider factors such as health needs of the empaneled population, geographical distribution, service demands, and available resources when determining the appropriate cadre and staffing for PMCI. Regular assessments, monitoring, and evaluation should be conducted to identify emerging needs and ensure that the workforce is adequately enforced to deliver high-quality PHC services.

Availability of Ward Sister

Table 43 Availability of Ward Sister

RDHS area	Ward Sister		Total
	A	B	
Jaffna	40		40
Kilinochchi	12	1	13
Mannar	18	2	20
Mullaitivu	13		13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	96	3	99

Availability of Dental surgeon

Table 44 Availability of Dental surgeon

RDHS area	Dental Surgeon			Total
	A	B	C	
Jaffna	20	19	1	40
Kilinochchi	5	8		13
Mannar	10	8	2	20
Mullaitivu	12	1		13
Vavuniya	13			13
Total	60	36	3	99

Availability of Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT)

Table 45 Availability of Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT)

RDHS area	MLT		Total
	A	B	
Jaffna	38	2	40
Kilinochchi	12	1	13
Mannar	17	3	20
Mullaitivu	12	1	13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	92	7	99

Availability of PHNO

Table 46 Availability of PHNO

RDHS area	PHNO			Total
	A	B	C	
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	10	3		13
Mannar	19		1	20
Mullaitivu	12	1		13
Vavuniya	12	1		13
Total	93	5	1	99

Availability of Pharmacist

Table 47 Availability of Pharmacist

RDHS area	Pharmacist		Total
	A	B	
Jaffna	37	3	40
Kilinochchi	12	1	13
Mannar	20		20
Mullaitivu	13		13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	95	4	99

Availability of Dispenser

Table 48 Availability of Dispenser

RDHS area	Dispenser				Total
	A	B	C	D	
Jaffna	4	26	7	3	40
Kilinochchi	2	8	3		13
Mannar	10	7	3		20
Mullaitivu	4	7	1	1	13
Vavuniya	2	11			13
Total	22	59	14	4	99

Availability of Development Officer

Table 49 Availability of Development Officer

RDHS area	Development Officer			Total
	A	B	C	
Jaffna	1	39		40
Kilinochchi	3	9	1	13
Mannar	8	8	4	20
Mullaitivu	5	8		13
Vavuniya	5	8		13
Total	22	72	5	99

Availability of Management Assistant

Table 50 Availability of Management Assistant

RDHS area	Management Assistant			Total
	A	B	C	
Jaffna	36	4		40
Kilinochchi	12		1	13
Mannar	15	5		20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Vavuniya	12	1		13
Total	88	10	1	99

Patient Record System and Referral Mechanism

Under the Ministry of Health (MoH), there are two systems involved in recording patient clinical information: Health Information Management Systems (HIMS) and Hospital Health Information Management Systems (HHIMS).

HIMS primarily operates at Healthy Lifestyle centers within the Primary Health Care Centers. These centers serve as the primary care point for patients, offering essential healthcare services. HIMS enables the PMCII to qualitatively manage and maintain patient clinical information, including medical histories, risk assessment and stratification based on WHO risk chart. It is proposed to design to cater to the specific needs and workflows of primary healthcare settings. On the other hand, HHIMS is primarily utilized in tertiary/secondary care hospitals, and it is being extended to divisional hospitals too. HIMS, being a cloud based system officials involved in health planning can access to summary data while HHIMS being functional within institutions access to data at national level is impossible.

Received information indicates that out of the total 86 PMCII utilize HIMS system, while the remaining PMCII have not yet implemented HIMS

Currently Available Digital Patient Record System

Table 51 Currently available digital patient record system

RDHS area	HIMS	HHIMS	Any Other	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40				40
Kilinochchi	12	1			13
Mannar	8		7	5	20
Mullaitivu	13				13
Vavuniya	13				13
Total	86	1	7	5	99

Internet connectivity

When evaluating the internet facilities in PMCII, it is of concern that 16 hospitals out of the total have no internet connectivity. This indicates a significant gap in the connectivity leading to inaccessibility to essential online system at those specific PMCII. It is essential to address this issue and ensure that all PMCII have a reliable internet connectivity to establish cloud based HIMS

Table 52 Internet connectivity

RDHS area	Yes	No	Total
Jaffna	33	7	40
Kilinochchi	12	1	13
Mannar	13	7	20
Mullaitivu	12	1	13
Vavuniya	13		13
Total	83	16	99

According to the study, it was found that some PMCII have multiple types of internet connectivity, such as wired and Wi-Fi connections. In order to ensure efficient and effective usage of internet connectivity in PMCII, it is recommended that MoH and provincial health authorities study the

feasibility of providing a unified connectivity solution. For example, the bellow information depicts those 35 hospitals having both kind of connectivity of wired and Wi-Fi.

Nature of the connectivity

Table 53 Nature of the connectivity

RDHS Area	Fiber	Wired	Wi Fi router	More than one	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna		1	3	29	7	40
Kilinochchi			11	1	1	13
Mannar	3	1	6	3	7	20
Mullaitivu		1	11		1	13
Vavuniya			11	2		13
Total	3	3	42	35	16	99

Laboratory Investigation Facilities

Laboratory facilities in primary healthcare settings are indeed crucial for NCD management and ensuring quality patient care. While it may not be feasible to establish fully-fledged laboratories in every Primary Health Care Center due to resource constraints, alternative approaches can be adopted to address this issue. One approach is the establishment of a laboratory network, where certain PMCII are designated as sample collection centers. These centers can collect samples from patients and send them to centralized laboratories or nearby hospital with a laboratory for necessary investigations. In the Northern province, several concerns have been identified regarding laboratory facilities. Here is a summary of the highlighted concerns:

Availability of Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT):

- There are 5 hospitals in the province that have laboratory facilities with MLT staff.
- One divisional hospital type A, B and C have relief MLT staffs to support laboratory operations.

Unavailability of MLT in some hospitals:

- There are three (9) hospitals where the laboratories are not functional due to the unavailability of MLT staff, indicating a challenge in recruitment.

Lack of laboratory facilities in some hospitals:

- There are nine DH type B -1 and DH type C- 7 and PMCU- 17 without laboratory facilities.
- This suggests that patients seeking laboratory services in these areas may need to rely on alternative hospitals or healthcare facilities.

Sample sending from PMCII to nearby hospitals:

- Fifty-seven PMCII in the Northern province send their samples to nearby hospitals for laboratory testing.

Table 54 Availability of Laboratory facilities

RDHS area	A			B			C			D			E			Total
	DHA	DHB	DHC	DHA	DHB	DHC	DHB	DHC	PMCU	DHB	DHC	PMCU	DHB	DHC	PMCU	
Jaffna		2			1								2	18	17	40
Vavuniya								2			1	2	1	4	3	13
Kilinochchi				1				2		1	1	2		3	3	13
Mannar		1	1			1	1				3	10	2	1		20
Mullaitivu	1						2	1	1		2	3		1	2	13
Total	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	5	1	1	7	17	5	27	25	99

A- Functioning laboratory with MLT is available

B- Laboratory available, but functions with relief MLT

C- Laboratory available, but not functioning due to the unavailability of MLT

D- No Laboratory

E- Sending samples to nearby lab

Providing laboratory services to nearby hospitals

In the Northern province, out of the 8 PMCII with available laboratory facilities and other laboratories, it is noteworthy that they are providing laboratory services to 57 nearby hospitals within the lab network. This indicates a collaborative approach to ensure access to laboratory testing.

Table 55 Laboratory service providing

RDHS area	Service providing		Total
	DHB	DHC	
Jaffna	2		2
Mannar		1	1
Total	2	1	3

Alternative Approaches for laboratory Services

In the PSSP project, one of the minimum requirements is the capability to conduct lab tests for glucose and cholesterol. It is essential that all Primary Health Care Centers (PMCII) have a feasible methodology to provide laboratory services to the people. In cases where a PMCI does not have its own laboratory, alternative approaches should be implemented to ensure the availability of investigative facilities.

By this survey identified some potential methodologies which are being used by PMCII:

Usage of strips: PMCII utilize strips or test kits for glucose and cholesterol testing. These strips provide a quick and convenient method for obtaining test results for screening purpose, requiring minimal technology and training.

Sending samples to nearby hospitals or central laboratories: In situations where PMCII are lacking in their own laboratory, samples can be sent to nearby hospitals or central laboratories for testing. This approach ensures that patients can still access necessary diagnostic investigations within the network.

Point-of-care machines: Implementing point-of-care machines in PMCII facilitates on-site testing for many variables. These portable devices provide rapid results, enabling immediate diagnosis and treatment decisions. This could be mostly recommended for PMCII situated in remote areas where sample sending is difficult.

It is crucial to establish at least one of these methodologies in PMCII to fulfill the minimum requirement set by the PSSP. Failure to do so may result in people seeking private laboratory services, which can be costly and less accessible.

By ensuring access to glucose and cholesterol lab tests through alternative approaches, PMCII can effectively meet the diagnostic needs of their patients. Managing the minimum required tests in PMCII that do not have their own laboratory involves adopting alternative approaches. According to the survey results, the majority of PMCII (14 out of 99) utilize the strips method for conducting blood glucose tests including 3 DHB, 1 DHC and 10 PMCU. In fact, The survey findings indicate

that 6 PMCII send their samples to a central laboratory for testing. However, it is concerning that six PMCII reported not using any alternative methods other than referring patients to private laboratories for their required tests. This dependence on private laboratories may result in increased out of pocket costs for patients and potential disparities in access to essential diagnostic services. To improve the situation, it is recommended that efforts be made to expand the utilization of alternative methods in PMCII without their own laboratories. This can include implementing the strips method, establishing connections with nearby hospitals or central laboratories for sample testing, or introducing point-of-care machines for on-site testing

Alternative laboratory methods

Table 56 Usage of alternative methods for blood glucose

RDHS area													Total
	A			C			D		E	Not respondent			
	DHB	DHC	PMCU	DH B	DH C	PMCU	DHC	PMCU	DHB	DHB	DHC	PMCU	
Kilinochchi					2	2				1	1		6
Mannar		1	7	1	1	1	1					2	14
Mullaitivu	1	2	3		1				1			1	9
Vavuniya							3	2					5
Total	1	3	10	1	4	3	4	2	1	1	1	3	34

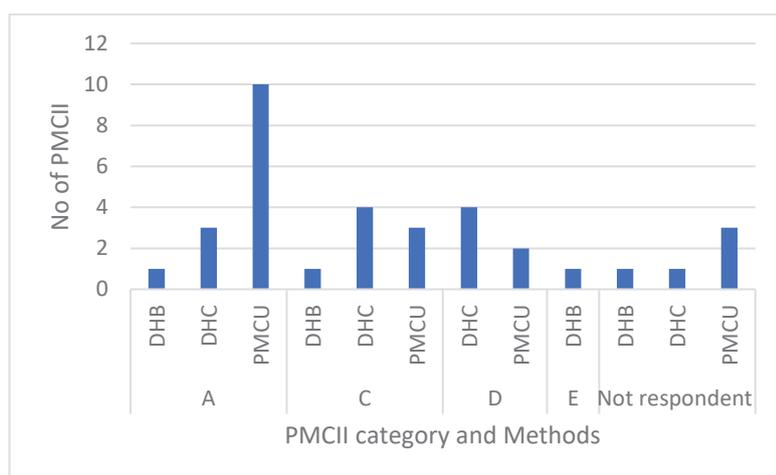
A: By glucose meters / Cholesterol meter

B: Point of care

C: By sending sample to laboratory in nearby hospitals

D: By Sending samples to Central Laboratory

E: By patient through private laboratory



Cholesterol

Table 57 Usage of alternative methods for cholesterol

RDHS area	Not respondent												Total
	A		B	C			D		E	Not respondent			
	DH C	PM CU	D HB	D HB	DH C	PM CU	DH C	PM CU	D HB	D HB	DH C	PM CU	
Kilinochchi					2	2				1	1		6
Mannar	1	7		1	1	1	1					2	14
Mullaitivu	2	3	1		1				1			1	9
Vavuniya							3	2					5
Total	3	10	1	1	4	3	4	2	1	1	1	3	34

Creatinine

Table 58 Usage of alternative methods for creatinine

RDHS area	B		C			D		E		Not respondent			Total
	DH B	DM C	DH B	DH C	PM CU	DH C	PM CU	DH B	PM CU	DH B	DH C	PM CU	
	Kilinochchi				2	2					1	1	
Mannar			1	1	3	1			2		1	5	14
Mullaitivu	1	1		2	1			1	1			2	9
Vavuniya						3	2						5
Total	1	1	1	5	6	4	2	1	3	1	2	7	34

Drug Supplies

The drug supply chain is of utmost importance in primary health care settings to ensure uninterrupted access to essential medications and provide better services to all citizens. In the context of the PSSP, one of the main capabilities is to ensure that PMCI maintain an adequate supply of essential drugs with no outages for a period of five-days at any given time.

Proper drug storage plays a crucial role in maintaining the quality and efficacy of medications. Therefore, it is essential for each and every PMCI to have appropriate facilities such as air-conditioning systems and refrigerators. These facilities help to regulate temperature and humidity, ensuring that drugs are stored under optimal conditions. It is the responsibility of provincial health authorities and the PSSP project to prioritize the provision of appropriate infrastructure and equipment, including air-conditioning systems and refrigerators, in PMCI.

Drugs Ordering and estimating annual drug requirement

In the survey conducted, it was found that the majority of PMCII follow a self-assessment approach for drug ordering and estimating the annual drug requirement. Specifically, out of the 99 PMCII surveyed, 85 PMCII reported preparing their annual estimate independently. Additionally, these PMCII assessed their annual drug requirement by increasing a certain percentage from the previous year's estimates. By adopting self-assessment approaches to drug ordering and estimating annual drug requirements, PMCII can enhance their ability to provide essential medications to patients without interruptions. Continuous evaluation and improvement of these practices will contribute to efficient drug management and ultimately improve the quality of care delivered in primary health care settings

Drugs Ordering

Table 59 Drugs Ordering

RDHS Area	Annual estimates are prepared by PMCII	regional level drug stores will take care of that	The regional office will discuss this with you and do the calculations	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	39		1		40
Kilinochchi	11		1	1	13
Mannar	14	4	2		20
Mullaitivu	10	2	1		13
Vavuniya	11	2			13
Total	85	8	5	1	99

Estimate annual drug requirements

Table 60 Estimate annual drug requirements

RDHS Area	Increase by a certain percentage from last year's estimates	Regional-level officers will do the calculations	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	11	1	1	13
Mannar	13	4	3	20
Mullaitivu	5	8		13
Vavuniya	11	2		13
Total	80	15	4	99

The survey aimed to investigate the frequency of shortfalls in essential drugs and the practice of prescribing medications and requesting patients to purchase them from outside sources. The results indicate the following trends among the surveyed PMCII (99 in total)

Frequency of Drug Shortages:

10% of PMCII reported rare occurrences of drug shortfalls during the survey period. This suggests that a majority of PMCII were able to maintain a steady supply of essential drugs without significant interruptions.

17% of PMCII experienced frequent occurrences of drug shortages. This indicates a notable proportion of PMCII faced challenges in maintaining an adequate drug supply, which can impact patient care and healthcare delivery.

72% of PMCII reported occasional shortfalls in drug availability. While not as frequent as the aforementioned category, this still highlights instances where patients may experience transient difficulties in accessing necessary medications.

External Prescription Practices:

24% of PMCII managed to provide medications within their own system, indicating that a significant proportion of PMCII were able to meet the medication needs of patients from their own drug supply.

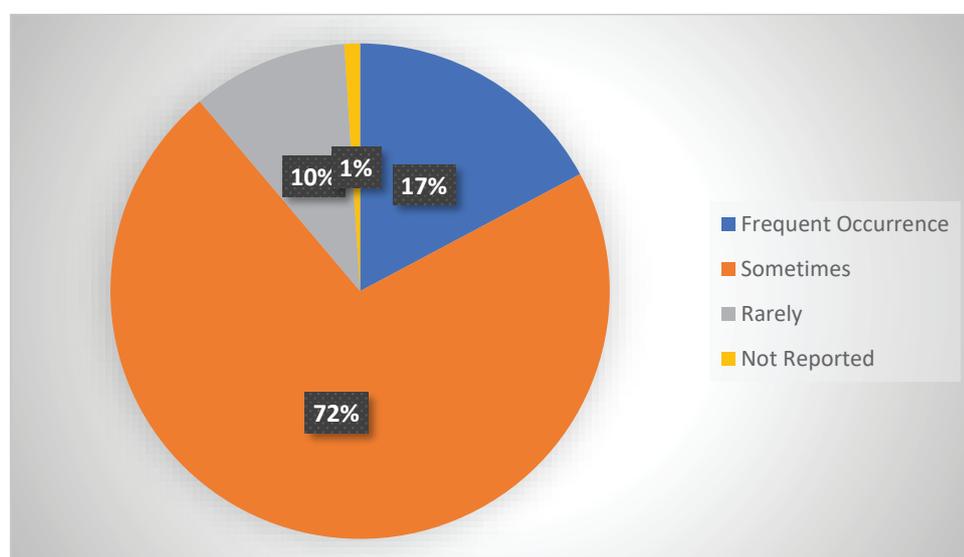
2% of PMCII frequently asked patients to buy drugs from outside sources. This suggests that a notable percentage of PMCII relied on patient's purchasing power on medications externally, which may have attributed to causes of not maintaining a steady drug supply.

70% of PMCII managed to address drug shortages to some extent, potentially through alternative means such as sourcing medications from other facilities or utilizing available resources within the system.

Shortfall of essential medicines at the institution

Table 61 Shortfall of essential medicines at the institution

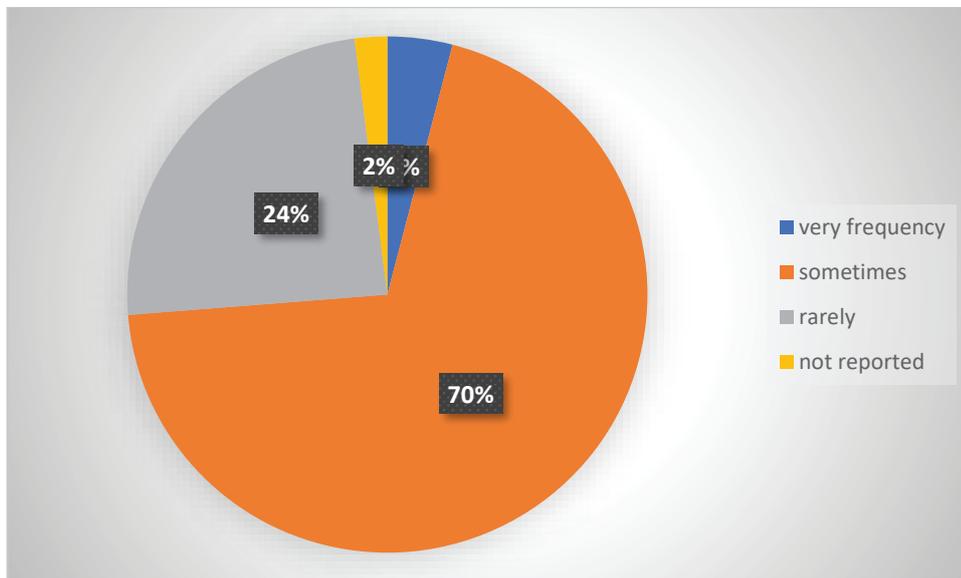
RDHS Area	FrequentLy	Sometimes	Rarely	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna		40			40
Kilinochchi	3	8	1	1	13
Mannar	1	16	3		20
Mullaitivu	1	6	6		13
Vavuniya	12	1			13
Total	17	71	10	1	99



Prescribe Drugs & Request Patients to buy from outside

Table 62 Prescribe drugs & request patients to buy from outside

RDHS Area	very frequency	sometimes	rarely	not reported	Total
Jaffna		37	3		40
Kilinochchi		8	4	1	13
Mannar	2	13	5		20
Mullaitivu	1		12		13
Vavuniya	1	11		1	13
Total	4	69	24	2	99



Drug Storage Facilities

Proper drug storage is crucial for maintaining the quality and efficacy of medications in primary health care settings. The survey findings reveal that almost all PMCII keep drug storage in optimum temperature conditions, primarily utilizing air-conditioning or refrigeration facilities.

Among the 99 PMCII, the following trends were observed:

Air-Conditioning Facilities:

77 PMCII (77%) have dedicated air-conditioned drug storage rooms. These facilities ensure that medications are stored at the recommended temperature to maintain their efficacy.

Refrigeration Facilities:

In cases where air-conditioning rooms are not available, 89 PMCII (89%) use refrigerators as an alternative method to maintain the optimum temperature for drug storage.

Only 9 PMCII (9%) reported not having any refrigeration facilities, suggesting a potential need for improvement in those specific facilities.

These findings indicate that the majority of PMCII (89 out of 99) have implemented effective measures for drug storage, either through air-conditioned rooms or refrigerators. However, the two PMCII without any refrigeration facilities should be considered immediately to ensure that all PMCII adhere to proper drug storage practices.

Provincial health authorities should continue to prioritize the provision of appropriate storage facilities in PMCII, including air-conditioned rooms or refrigerators, to safeguard the quality of medications. Regular monitoring and maintenance of these storage systems are essential to ensure that drugs remain safe and effective for patient use.

By maintaining optimum temperature conditions for drug storage, PMCII can contribute to the delivery of quality healthcare services, enhance patient safety, and ensure the efficacy of medications in primary health care settings.

Good Storage Facility with AC to Store Pharmaceuticals

Table 63 Good storage facility with AC to store pharmaceuticals

RDHS Area	YES	NO	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	39	1		40
Kilinochchi	6	6	1	13
Mannar	8	12		20
Mullaitivu	11	2		13
Vavuniya	13			13
Total	77	21	1	99

A Refrigerator to store such required

Table 64 A refrigerator to store such required

RDHS Area	YES	NO	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	39	1		40
Kilinochchi	10	2	1	13
Mannar	16	4		20
Mullaitivu	11	2		13
Vavuniya	13			13
Total	89	9	1	99

Citizen engagement committee and Grievances redress

The establishment of Friends of Facility Committees (FFCs) and their functions is one of the main disbursements linked indicators in the Primary Health Care Strengthening Project (PSSP). FFCs are expected to work in collaboration with the relevant PMCI and enhance services within the community surrounding hospitals, ultimately improving primary health care delivery. In line with this objective, the Ministry of Health (MoH) developed a comprehensive guideline, which has been approved by the MoH and adopted by all provincial health authorities. A survey was conducted to assess the awareness of the FFC guideline among all Primary Health Care Centers (PMCI) and determine whether they have established FFCs in adherence to the guidelines. Additionally, the survey aimed to evaluate the functionalities of existing FFCs and the implementation of grievance management methods by PMCI. Based on the information received, the following key findings are highlighted:

Awareness of FFC Guidelines:

Out of the total 99 PMCI, 92 PMCI have demonstrated awareness of the FFC guidelines. This indicates a considerable level of familiarity with the purpose and objectives of FFCs.

The remaining PMCI should be made aware of the FFC guidelines to ensure consistent implementation across all primary health care settings.

Establishment of FFCs in the Northern Province:

In the Northern Province, 90 PMCI have successfully established FFCs, indicating their commitment to community engagement and improved service delivery.

For the remaining PMCI in the region, it is crucial to initiate the establishment of FFCs to promote community engagement and enhance primary health care services.

Frequency of FFC Meetings:

Among the PMCII that have established FFCs, it is encouraging to note that most of them conduct quarterly meetings. These meetings serve as platforms for discussing the requirements and processes of primary health care services.

Regular meetings enable effective communication, coordination, and continuous improvement in the delivery of primary health care.

Overall, the findings suggest a positive trend in FFC awareness and implementation in primary health care settings. To maximize the benefits of FFCs, it is essential to ensure that all PMCII are aware of the FFC guidelines and actively work towards establishing FFCs. Ongoing support and guidance should be provided to PMCII, particularly those that have not yet established FFCs, to facilitate the implementation process. Regular FFC meetings should be encouraged to promote collaboration, addressing concerns, and enhance the quality of primary health care services in the respective regions.

Awareness of Friend of Facility Committee “Suwaseva Mithuro”

Table 65 Awareness of Friend of Facility Committee “Suwaseva Mithuro”

RDHS Area	Yes	No	Not reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	11	1	1	13
Mannar	15	5		20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Vavuniya	13			13
Total	92	6	1	99

Establishment of “Suwaseva Mithuro”

Table 66 Establishment of “Suwaseva Mithuro”

RDHS area	Yes	No	Not reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	12		1	13
Mannar	12	8		20
Mullaitivu	13			13
Vavuniya	13			13
Total	90	8	1	99

How frequently do they meet

Table 67 Establishment of “Suwaseva Mithuro”

RDHS area	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	not reported	Total
Jaffna	5	35			40
Kilinochchi	4	8		1	13
Mannar	2	9	2	7	20
Mullaitivu		13			13
Vavuniya		13			13
Total	11	78	2	8	99

Implementation and Analysis of Grievance Redress Mechanism

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has taken the initiative to establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to address public grievances and provide timely solutions within the health sector. The GRM aims to ensure that grievances raised by the public are effectively managed and resolved at appropriate levels, based on the nature of the grievance. The survey conducted on the implementation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) in PMCII has provided valuable insights into the current status of grievance management and suggests areas for improvement. The following key findings and recommendations have been identified:

Grievance Box (Suggestion box)

Out of 99 PMCII surveyed, 79 PMCII have established grievance boxes at their premises to collect public grievances.

However, there is a need to encourage and promote the establishment of grievance boxes in the remaining 18 PMCII to ensure a standardized and accessible approach for receiving grievances.

Regular Analysis of Grievances:

Only 46 PMCII reported conducting weekly analysis of grievances received through the grievance boxes.

It is recommended that all PMCII adopt a regular analysis process to systematically review and address public grievances in a timely manner.

Awareness and Responsibility:

It is crucial for all management staff within PMCII to be aware of the GRM and their role in addressing grievances.

Management should take proactive steps to analyze grievance trends and encourage corrective actions within their authority.

If corrective actions cannot be taken at the local level, management should escalate the grievances and seek guidance and intervention from higher authorities.

Any grievance/ suggestion box kept at the institution

Table 68 Any grievance/ suggestion box kept at the institution

RDHS Area	Yes	No	Not reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	7	5	1	13
Mannar	13	7		20
Mullaitivu	10	3		13
Vavuniya	9	3	1	13
Total	79	18	2	99

How frequently check the box

Table 69 How frequently check the box

RDHS Area	weekly	monthly	not looking at it	not reported	Total
Jaffna	19	21			40
Kilinochchi	1	6		6	13
Mannar	11	3	1	5	20
Mullaitivu	10		1	2	13
Vavuniya	5	3	1	4	13
Total	46	33	3	17	99

Corrective Measures are undertaken in such situations.

Table 70 Corrective measures are undertaken in such situations.

RDHS Area	Yes	No	Not Reported	Total
Jaffna	40			40
Kilinochchi	8	1	4	13
Mannar	10	4	6	20
Mullaitivu	10	1	2	13
Vavuniya	3		10	13
Total	71	6	22	99

Conclusion

The survey results have provided considerable amount of information with regard to the capability of PMCII in Northern Province for delivery of primary health care services effectively and efficiently. All officers involved in decision making, managing resources, implementing day today activities, monitoring and supervising should be able to refer to the information provided and take appropriate actions to minimize the gaps indicated so that the people in Northern province will enjoy a satisfactory qualitative PHC service.

This survey might have missed some areas of concerns. Therefore a similar exercise should be conducted regularly at least every two years with an improved questionnaire to reveal any overlooked areas which have public concerns.

It will be noteworthy to compare these results with the information provided in the situation analysis report published in 2019 to make sure that some number of gaps identified early, have been addressed. However the due attention paid by provincial officers and their commitment will prove an excellent primary care service to the population in Northern Province.

Situation Analysis 2023

Primary Healthcare System Strengthening Project – PSSP

Section 1 of 4

1. Name of Enumerator _____
2. Designation _____
3. Contact Number _____
4. Email _____
5. Date of visit _____

Section 2 of 4

Institution Details

1. Provincial Director of Health Services area _____
2. Regional Director of Health Services area _____
3. Name of the PMCI _____
4. Category of the Hospital :
 - Divisional Hospital A
 - Divisional Hospital B
 - Divisional Hospital C
 - PMCU

Section 3 of 4

Services and Infrastructure

- 3.1 Water supply services to the hospital

Well water	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected well	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unprotected well	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tube well	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pipe born water	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>				

- 3.2 Is safe drinking water available in OPD/ Clinic areas?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

- 3.3 Main source of electricity

No electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Main line	<input type="checkbox"/>
Generator	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar power	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 3.4 Availability of backup generator

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

- 3.5 If yes Current condition of the generator

Working	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not working	<input type="checkbox"/>
Capacity not adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.6 Waste disposal methods

3.6.1 Is the segregation of waste done?

Yes No

3.6.2 How do you handle disposal of clinical waste?

Burning at premises
 Incinerating
 Sending to incinerator available hospital
 Sending to Local Authorities
 Other

Physical space and Infrastructure and HR requirements at Primary care institutions

3.7 Physical space and Infrastructure

	Yes	No	If "No" whether is it required (please tick)	Adequate*	Not Adequate
Waiting area for patients available					
Space for consultation rooms					
Dispensary /Pharmacist or dispensers room					
Drug store area					
Laboratory room					
Rest room <u>Medical</u> officers					
Rest room for nursing staff					
Rest room for other staff					
Toilet facilities for patients (<u>male</u> and Female)					
Space for a meeting room					
Pantry area					

* Please refer to general circular 01-29/2018 published by MoH - physical space norms for primary health care facilities

3.7.1 if any additional requirements/remarks please mention.....

3.8 Availability of Health Quarters and current status

	Yes	No	fully utilized	Under utilized
Quarters for MOO				
Quarters for NOO				
Any Other quarters*				

3.8.1 Any Other quarters please specify:

Services for curative and preventive care work

3.9 Infrastructure Facilities to deliver services

	Yes	No	If "No" whether is it required (ple tick	Adequate	Not Adequate
Dental room facilities					
ETU room/ space for emergency care					
Dressing room/space for wound care					
Injection room facilities					
Clinic room/rooms to handle ANC/FP/Well women clinic/NCD care /nutrition promotion work					
Office space for PHMs (<u>for</u> those who visit from MOH office)					
Office space for PHIs (<u>for</u> those who visit from MOH office)					
space for breastfeeding					

3.9.1 if any additional requirements/remarks please mention.....

.....

Minimum preparedness to provide covid 19 and or any communicable diseases outbreak emergency responses at OPD and Emergency Department care

3.10 Availability of facilities and services to manage any out diseases outbreak emergency Responses

	Yes	No
Separate areas to manage suspected patients to have Covid-19 infection or any other epidemic		
Separate triage area Sign posted at the entrance of all hospitals		
Major symptoms/risk factors should be displayed at the entrance All OPDs		

Equipment and other items used for NCD screening and diagnosis

3.11 Availability of essential medical equipment

	Yes	No	Number Adequate	Number Not Adequate
Blood pressure apparatus				
Microscope				

Thermometer				
Nebulizer				
ECG machine				
Oxygen supply cylinders				
Ophthalmoscope				
Measurement tape & stadiometer				
Weighing machine				
Pulse oximeter				
Glucometer and strips				
Cholesterol meter and strips				
Urine ketone tests				
Spaces for inhalers				
Tuning fork				
Snellen chart				
Torch				
WHO/ISH prediction chart				
Evidence based clinical protocols				
Flow charts with referral criteria				
Patient clinical records				
Medical information register				
Stethoscopes				
Weight scale with or without height measuring				
Height measuring rod for children and adults				
Weighing scales for infants				
Length board for infants and young children up to age 2 years				
Examination bed				
Tongue depressor				
Tendon hammer (knee hammer)				

Human resource needs

3.12 Availability of HR

	Approved cadre	In position
Medical officers		
Dental surgeon		
RMO/AMO		
Ward Sister		
Nursing staff		
Medical Lab Technicians (MLT)		
Pharmacist		
Dispenser		
PHNO		
Development Officer		
Management Assistant		
SKS staff		
Multi task force (Bahukarya) staff		

Section 4 of 4

Project-Related Specific Question

4.1 Does the institution has facilities to conduct cervical cancer screening_(PAP smear testing)

Yes No

4.2 Do you have the facilities for sputum collection for TB Screening

Yes No

4.3 Dose the hospital have facilities to deliver primary oral health care package?

Yes No

4.4 Dose the hospitals has facilities to manage the basic emergencies

Yes No

4.5 Are you providing routine nutrition counselling services through the hospital?

Yes No

4.6 Are you providing mental health activities or conduct clinics?

Yes No

Patient record system and referral mechanism

4.8 Currently available digital patient record system

HIMS HHIMS Any Other

4.9 Does the hospital have internet facility?

Yes No

4.10 If yes what kind of connectivity?

Fibre
Wired
Wi Fi router
Dongle
Other

4.11 Does the hospital have local wired network system?

Yes No

4.12 Do you have computer facilities at the institute?

Yes No

Laboratory investigation facilities

5. Availability of laboratory facilities

- A. Functioning laboratory with MLT is available
- B. Laboratory available, but functions with relief MLT
- C. Laboratory available, but not functioning due to the unavailability of MLT
- D. No laboratory
- E. Sending samples to nearby lab

5.1 If your answer to question No 05 is "A", do you provide laboratory services to the nearby hospitals and MOHs

- Yes No

5.2 If answer is "Yes" please indicate name of Hospitals and MOHs

.....

5.3 If your answer to question No 05 is "B" & "C", Do you have a MLT in the approved hospital carder?

- Yes No

5.4 If your answer to question No 5 is "C" or "D" how do you provide following basic laboratory facilities

	By glucose meter / Cholesterol meter	By point of care analyser	By sending sample to laboratory in nearby hospital	By sending samples to central laboratory	By patient through private laboratory
Blood glucose					
Cholesterol					
Creatinine					

Drug supplies

6. How do you make the orders for medical supplies

- Annual estimates are prepared by you
- Regional level drug stores will take care of that
- Regional office will discuss with you and do the calculations
- No specific mechanism to do this

6.1 How do you estimate your annual drug requirements?

- Increase by certain percentage from last year's estimates
- Regional level officers will do the calculations
- Not involve at all

6.2 How frequently you experience with shortfall of essential medicines at your institution

- Frequent occurrence
- Sometimes
- Rarely

6.3 How frequently you prescribe drugs and request patients to buy from outside pharmacies

- Very frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely

6.4 Do you have a good storage facility with AC to store pharmaceuticals

Yes No

6.5 Do you have a refrigerator to store such required

Yes No

Citizen Engagement

6.6 Are you aware about existing government guidelines on functioning of Friends of facility committee "~~Suwasewa Mithuro~~"

Yes No

6.7 Have you established a "Friends of facility committee?"

Yes No

6.8 How frequently they meet

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually

6.9 Is there any appointment system adopted at the institution for consulting patients

Yes No

6.10 Is there any grievance/suggestion box kept at the institute.

Yes No

6.11 If Yes- How frequently you check the box

- Weekly
- Monthly
- Not looking at it

6.12 Any corrective measures are undertaken in such situations.

Yes No

In addition to the above details, are there any things you suggest to improve the services

.....

.....

Authorization

I hereby declare that the information given above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

.....
Authorized Officers' Name and designation

Date:

.....
Authorized Officers' Signature

