

CORPORATE OFFICE

Delhi Office

706 Ground Floor Dr. Mukherjee
Nagar Near Batra Cinema Delhi -
110009

Noida Office

Basement C-32 Noida Sector-2
Uttar Pradesh 201301

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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CARE PROTOCOL FOR BABIES

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "Care Protocol for Babies". The topic "Care Protocol for Babies" has relevance in the "Social Justice" section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

What is the neonatal period?

What are IMR, MMR, NMR?

For Mains:

GS2: Social Justice

Why in the news?

Earlier this week, Lucy Letby, a former British nurse, was sentenced to life imprisonment in what has been described as the most egregious case of child serial killing in the history of the United Kingdom.

Patient Safety Measures in India

- Patient safety is a cornerstone of public healthcare, holding immense importance. According to the document titled '**National Patient Safety Implementation Framework (2018-2025)**' by the Union Health Ministry, **patient safety refers to ensuring that patients are shielded from unnecessary harm or potential harm related to the provision of healthcare.**
- In India, patients' safety is safeguarded through a multifaceted but fragmented legal framework.
 - The foundational principles of patient safety are enshrined in the Hippocratic Oath.
 - The Consumer Protection Act of 2019 addresses concerns regarding medical negligence and inadequacy of medical services.
 - The Clinical Establishment Act of 2010 further delineates patients' legal rights.
 - Both the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and the Drugs Controller General of India oversee regulatory mechanisms to ensure patients' rights regarding medications and medical devices, preventing overcharging and ensuring protection.

What is the neonatal period?

- The neonatal period, spanning the first four weeks (28 days) of life, is characterized by rapid changes, including the establishment of feeding patterns and parental bonding.
- While it's a time of essential development, the heightened vulnerability to infections and the early potential for detecting birth defects highlight the need for vigilant care during these crucial early weeks.

Neonatal Issues:

- **Persisting Neonatal Mortality:**

- Despite a global decline in neonatal deaths from 5 million in 1990 to 2.4 million in 2019, newborns continue to face significant mortality risks.
- The first 28 days of life are critical, as evidenced by the fact that 47% of all under-five deaths in 2019 occurred during this period.
- Disturbingly, nearly one-third of neonatal deaths happen on the day of birth, and around three-quarters occur within the initial week.

- **Factors Contributing to Neonatal Deaths:**

- Several factors contribute to neonatal mortality. These include pre-term birth, intrapartum-related complications (such as birth asphyxia), infections, and birth defects.
- These conditions often arise due to a lack of quality care during and immediately after birth.

Addressing Challenges:

- **Role of Midwife-led Continuity of Care:**

- Research suggests that midwife-led continuity of care (MLCC), provided by professionally trained and regulated midwives adhering to international standards, can significantly impact neonatal outcomes.
- Women receiving MLCC are 16% less likely to experience infant loss and 24% less likely to have pre-term births.

- **Importance of Prompt Medical Care:**

- Families are advised to seek prompt medical care if newborns display danger signs, such as feeding difficulties, reduced activity, breathing issues, fever, convulsions, jaundice within 24 hours of birth, yellowing of palms and soles, or coldness.
- Immediate attention can mitigate health risks for newborns.

- **Vital Role of Birth Registration and Vaccination:**

- Birth registration and timely vaccination are crucial for newborns' well-being. Families are encouraged to register births and adhere to national vaccination schedules.
- These steps contribute to comprehensive healthcare and disease prevention for neonates.

- **Enhanced Care for Vulnerable Newborns:**

- Certain newborns require heightened attention and care both during hospitalization and at home to minimize health risks.
- Tailored support and monitoring are essential to ensure their optimal health and development.

Additional Information:

Term	Definition	Purpose and Importance	2019 Data
IMR (Infant Mortality Rate)	The number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births in a given population within a specific time frame.	Measures the overall health and well-being of infants within a society.	30/1000
MMR (Maternal Mortality Rate)	The number of maternal deaths (deaths of pregnant or postpartum women) per 100,000 live births in a given	Assesses the quality of maternal healthcare and the well-being of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the	8.1

	population and time period.	postpartum period.	
NMR (Neonatal Mortality Rate)	The number of deaths of newborn infants (neonates) within the first 28 days of life per 1,000 live births in a given population.	Provides insight into newborn health and survival during the vulnerable initial weeks of life.	22/1000

Sources:

Explained | What is the care protocol for babies in India? – The Hindu

Q1. With reference to Mortality Rates, consider the following statements:

1. IMR (Infant Mortality Rate) is the number of deaths of infants under one year old per 1,000 live births.
2. MMR (Maternal Mortality Rate) is the number of maternal deaths per 1000 live births.
3. NMR (Neonatal Mortality Rate) is the number of deaths of newborns within the first 28 days of life per 1,000 live births.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

Q2. Explain the concept of the neonatal period and its significance in infant health. Elaborate on the factors contributing to neonatal mortality and the strategies to address these challenges.

Gaurav Nikumbh

SEETHAKALI FOLK DANCE

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "Seethakali Folk Dance". The topic "Seethakali Folk Dance" has relevance in the Art and Culture section of the UPSC CSE exam.

GS 1: Art and Culture

Why in the news:

For the first time, the 20-member ensemble from the Perinad Seethakali Sangham is gearing up to present the Seethakali art form outside of Kerala.

This marks a significant milestone for this traditional Dravidian dance form, which combines songs, storytelling, and dynamic movements, as it ventures beyond its regional boundaries.

Seethakali: A Historical Dance Form:

Seethakali, a centuries-old dance form, is distinguished by its fusion of **rhythmic movements, narrative storytelling, and musical accompaniments**. Originating in **Perinad, Kollam district**,

this art form traces its roots back approximately **150 years**. It was traditionally **performed by the Vedar and Pulayar communities as part of the Onam festivities**.

Thematic Basis:

At its core, **Seethakali draws inspiration from episodes within the epic Ramayana**. It encapsulates the **journey of Seetha, encompassing her exile to the forest (vanayatra) and her symbolic descent into the earth (andardhanam)**. Key mythological characters such as Rama, Seetha, Ravana, and Hanuman bring this narrative to life.

Melodic Companions:

Central to Seethakali performances are the enchanting folk songs that accompany the dancers. **Passed down through generations, these oral traditions enrich the storytelling aspect of the dance.**

Traditional Instruments and Props:

Seethakali embraces nature in its instruments and props, crafted from materials like bamboo and palm leaves. Musical accompaniments include instruments such as the **ganjira, manikatta, chiratta, and kaimani**.

Vibrant Attire and Visual Elements:

Costumes and makeup in Seethakali are notable for their vividness. Characters like **Rama and Laxmana are adorned in green attire**, as this hue symbolizes divinity in line with traditions seen in Kathakali.



Perinad Seethakali Sangham:

The Perinad Seethakali Sangham stands as the sole registered performing group dedicated to Seethakali within Kerala. Recognized by the Kerala Folklore Akademi in 2018, this group's affiliation has played a pivotal role in reviving this distinct art form, which was once on the brink of fading into obscurity.

By expanding beyond its native region, the Perinad Seethakali Sangham not only showcases the artistic and cultural richness of Seethakali but also contributes to preserving and sharing a piece of Kerala's cultural heritage on a broader stage.

SOURCE:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/artistes-breathe-a-new-life-into-seethakali-folk-art/article67234768.ece>

Q.1 Seethakali, a traditional Dravidian dance form that combines songs, storytelling, and dynamic movements is associated with:

- (a) kerala
- (b) karnataka
- (c) Tamil nadu
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

ANSWER: A

Q.2 Consider the following statements:

1. The dance form Seethakali draws inspiration from episodes within the epic Ramayana.
2. Seethakali dancers wear monochrome costumes during performances.
3. Folk songs accompany Seethakali performances and are passed down orally through generations.

How many of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

ANSWER: B

Rishabh



Yojna IAS
योजना है तो सफलता है