

# The impact of community-based health education on health-seeking behaviour and health insurance utilisation by women and their families

<b>Submission date</b> 15/10/2010	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 22/10/2010	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 22/10/2010	<b>Condition category</b> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Ms Sapna Desai

**Contact details**  
SEWA Health  
Chanda Niwas  
Nr. Hariharanand Ashram  
Ahmedabad  
India  
380006  
sapna.i.desai@gmail.com

## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
N/A

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

Experimental cluster randomised study to assess how a community health education intervention affects the health seeking behaviour of women insured by VimoSEWA and non-insured women

**Acronym**

VSAS (VimoSEWA Arogya Sanshodan)

**Study objectives**

A significant proportion of health insurance hospitalisation claims by the poor are for primary illnesses - waterborne illness and fever/malaria - and hysterectomy (hereafter referred to as commonly claimed for conditions) which may not require hospitalisation. We assess if a targeted health education intervention delivered by community health workers impacts on hospitalisation claim patterns, health seeking behaviour and expenditure for commonly claimed for conditions amongst insured and uninsured women and their families.

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Executive Committee of the SEWA Health Cooperative (Shri Gujarat Swashrayi Mahila Lok Swasthya Sahakari Mandli Ltd) approved on the 14th October 2010.

**Study design**

Cluster randomised trial

**Primary study design**

Intentional

**Study type(s)**

Quality of life

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Health seeking behaviour for commonly claimed for illnesses

**Interventions**

Interventions in the treatment group are:

1. Focused group health education sessions for women, delivered by community health workers, and community media on commonly claimed for conditions (waterborne disease, fever/malaria and hysterectomy)
2. Facilitated referral to outpatient facilities by community health workers
3. Additional capacity building and support for community health workers

In control areas, SEWA health cooperative's ongoing community health activities and VimoSEWA insurance programs will continue.

Treatment duration: At least 18 months.

Follow-up duration: 6 monthly follow-ups throughout intervention, to a total of 2 years.

Joint Sponsor:

VimoSEWA (India)

Chanda Niwas  
Near Hariharanand Ashram  
Ellis Bridge  
Ahmedabad 380006  
India

**Additional scientific contact details:**

Dr Ajay Mahal  
Alan and Elizabeth Finkel Chair of Global Health  
School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University  
Third Floor, Burnet Building  
Alfred Hospital  
Melbourne, VIC 3004  
Australia  
T: +61 (0)3 990 30 028  
E: amahal@hsph.harvard.edu

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome(s)**

Hospitalisation patterns for primary illness and hysterectomy, measured by household surveys and VimoSEWA claims records. Measured 6-monthly for 2 years.

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Health seeking behaviour for primary illness and management of gynecological conditions
2. Health care related expenditure
3. Incidence (reported) of common illness

Measured 6-monthly for 2 years.

**Completion date**

15/05/2012

## **Eligibility**

**Key inclusion criteria**

Cluster inclusion:

1. Village and urban settlement clusters
2. Served by SEWA community health workers
3. Covered by VimoSEWA insurance
4. Area membership of at least 30 policies

Individual inclusion:

1. SEWA members (adult women aged 18 to 60 years) currently enrolled in VimoSEWA insurance (for insured group)
2. Women residents of the same area not insured by VimoSEWA (control group)

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 years

**Sex**

Female

**Key exclusion criteria**

Cluster exclusion:

Village and slum clusters not covered by both SEWA community health workers and VimoSEWA insurance.

Individual exclusion:

Women whose homes could not be located from the insurance registry or women who no longer reside at the given address.

**Date of first enrolment**

15/11/2010

**Date of final enrolment**

15/05/2012

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

India

**Study participating centre**

SEWA Health

Ahmedabad

India

380006

**Sponsor information****Organisation**

SEWA Health Cooperative (India)

# Funder(s)

## Funder type

Research organisation

## Funder Name

International Labour Organisation (ILO) (Switzerland) - Microinsurance Innovation Facility (ref: R2-149)

# Results and Publications

## Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration