Nurse Didi: Where does our nursedidi work from? It is a health sub center. The sub center actually works for 5–6 villages (3000–5000 population). We have a nursedidi called ANM and a health worker brother called Male Multipurpose Worker (MPW). Together they do various tasks for the villages. We will need to work with them more closely.

The Health Sub Center

Let us look at our sub center more closely. The health sub center may be your nearest health facility. Our sub center has a nursedidi and a MPW. Their main tasks are:

- Immunization of children to prevent six dangerous illnesses.
 Routine checkup of pregnant women, conducting normal deliveries and post natal care.
- Helping couples to adopt spacing and sterilization services.
- Treatment for TB, Leprosy and Malaria
- Treatment of minor ailments.
- Visiting Anganwadis and schools for health check up.
- Child care including treatment for diarrhea and coughs
- Advice on village sanitation, water safety etc.

The ANM and MPW have difficult tasks. The villages under their care spread out on 8-10 km area. They have to often walk distances, and be on move. They visit houses to conduct provide some services. For some services like Immunization, they conduct clinics on a fixed day each month in a central place such as anganwadi centres in the village. They have also to make reports of monthly health activities and attend meetings at PHCs.

We can do this

Develop good links with nursedidi and MPW. Know about the facilities available with them. Help them in their tasks.

What do you think about this?

- People say the nursedidi hardly stays at one place.
- People call the MPW as the malaria worker.