

NCAHP: An Indian Perspective



Transforming Allied Health Education



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DEAN

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THE NEED FOR NCAHP :



- NCAHP ACT 2021
- Objectives
- Professional Categories
- Registrations and Regulations
- Challenges and Opportunities

Can a healthcare system function effectively without its allied health workforce?



From the Laboratory that confirms a
Diagnosis...

To the Radiology suite that reveals hidden
Pathology...

To Rehabilitation that restores quality of life...

Allied Health Professionals are the **silent
backbone of Healthcare delivery.**



“An associate, technician, or technologist trained to perform any technical and practical task to support diagnosis and treatment of illness, disease, injury, or impairment in a healthcare setting.”

- NCAHP ACT 2021

THE IMPORTANCE OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



- Backbone of the Healthcare System
- Support Diagnosis, Treatment & Rehabilitation
- Improve Access to Quality Care
- Bridge the Gap in Rural & Underserved Areas
- Multidisciplinary Collaboration





And yet, for decades, this backbone remained
**unstructured, under-recognised, and
unevenly regulated.**



NCAHP ACT 2021

भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

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असाधारण
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इस भाग में भिन्न पृष्ठ संख्या दी जाती है जिससे कि यह अलग संकलन के रूप में रखा जा सके।
Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(Legislative Department)

New Delhi, the 28th March, 2021/Chaitra 7, 1943 (Saka)

The following Act of Parliament received the assent of the President on the 28th March, 2021, and is hereby published for general information:—

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR ALLIED AND HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONS ACT, 2021

No. 14 OF 2021

[28th March, 2021.]

An Act to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by allied and healthcare professionals, assessment of institutions, maintenance of a Central Register and State Register and creation of a system

The National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP) is a statutory body established through an act of Parliament in 2021.

It falls under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and plays a vital role in reshaping the landscape of allied and healthcare education and practice in India.

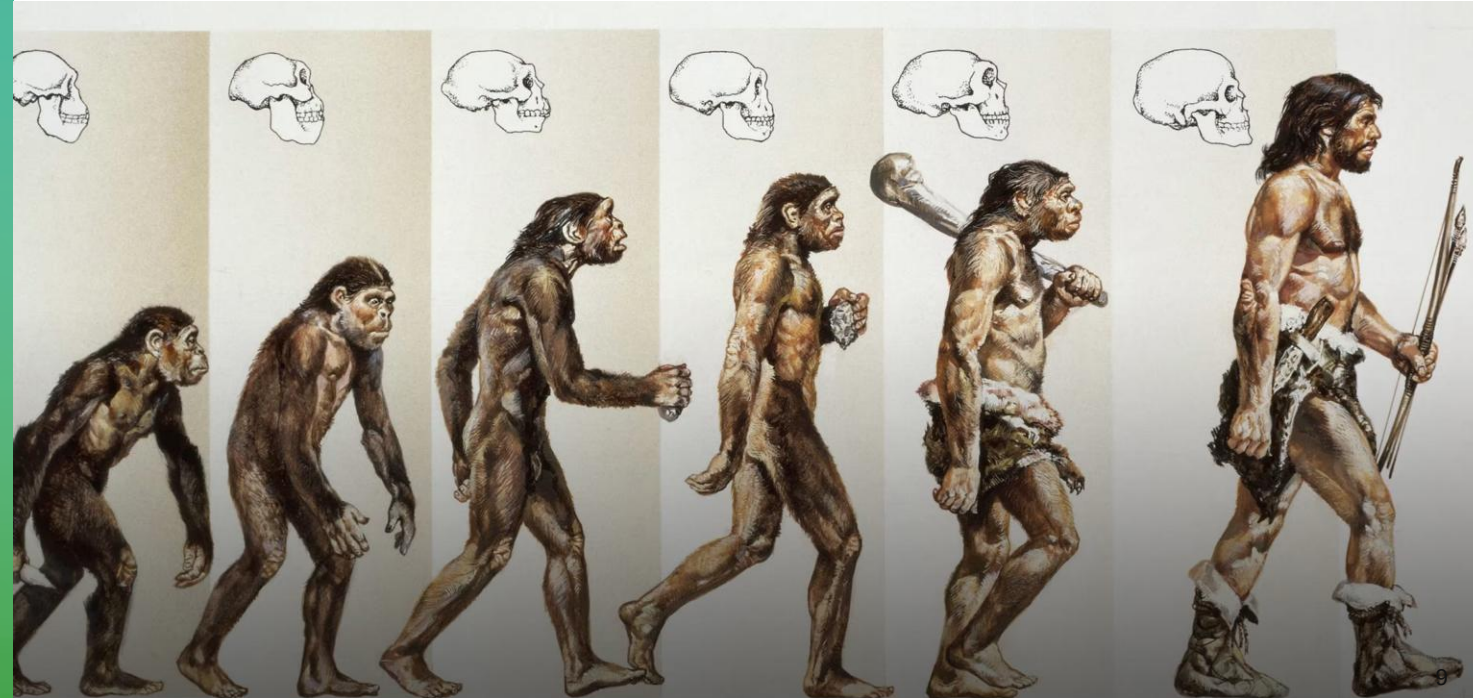
WHY NCAHP?

- Unregulated AHP sector
- Quality variation
- Need for standardisation



Pre-NCAHP Scenario

- Fragmented Education
- No Uniform Curriculum
- Variable Competency



OBJECTIVES OF THE NCAHP



- An Act to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by Allied and Healthcare Professionals.
- Assessment of Institutions
- Maintenance of a Central Register and State Register
- Creation of a system to improve access, research and development
- Adoption of latest scientific advancement

STRUCTURE



- National Commission
- Professional Councils
- State Councils

10 Professional Categories

1. The Medical Laboratory and Life Sciences
2. Trauma, Burn Care, and Surgical/Anaesthesia-related technology
3. Physiotherapy Professional
4. Nutrition Science Professional
5. Ophthalmic Sciences Professional
6. Occupational Therapy Professional
7. Community Care, Behavioural Health Sciences, and other Professionals
8. Medical Radiology, Imaging and Therapeutic Technology Professional
9. Medical Technologists & Physician Associate Biomedical & Medical Equipment Tech
10. Health Information Management and Health Informatics Professional

PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER, MEDICAL LABORATORY & LIFE SCIENCES NCAHP



**Professional Council Members (Medical Laboratory & Life Sciences) with
Chairperson & Secretary, NCAHP.**

**Right to Left: Shri Umesh Balonda, Dr. Geetha M, Dr. C. Ananda Vayaravel,
Dr. Yagna Shukla, Dr. Rashmi Shukla, Dr. Vidhya Srinivasan, Dr. Gagan**

CURRICULUM TASK FORCE MEMBER, MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

NCAHP, AUGUST 2025



Professional Councils...

- Key regulatory bodies for unified Standards and Policies
- Develop Curriculum and Competency standards
- Define Scope of Practice
- Guide the regulation of the Professionals
- Recommend guidelines for Education Training & Ethics

Contributors to drafting and review

NCAHP Professional Council Members*

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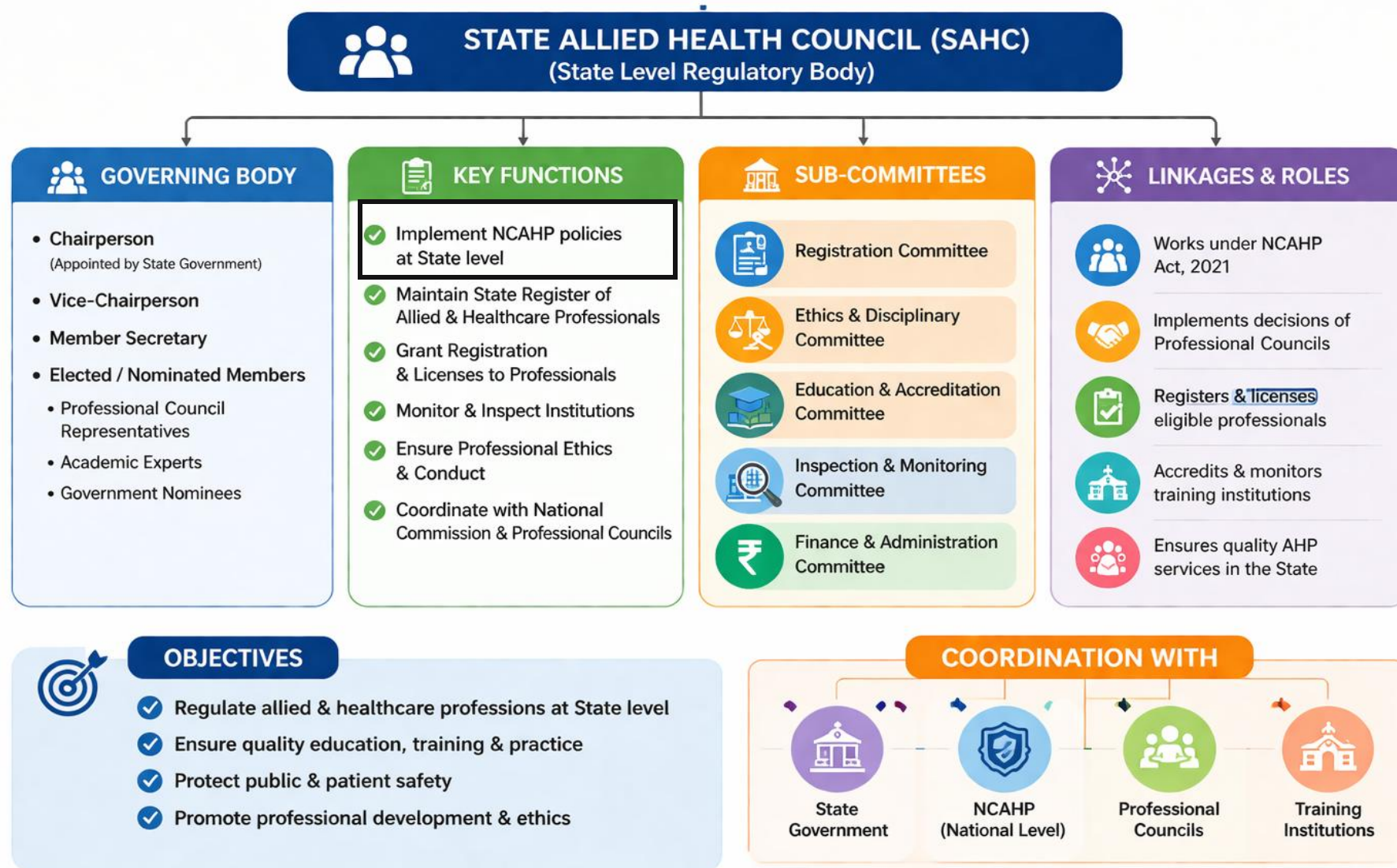
Dr Gagan Dhawan, PhD, Professor & Dean, Faculty of Allied Medical Sciences and Healthcare Skills, Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, New Delhi

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STATE ALLIED AND HEALTHCARE COUNCIL (SAHC)



EDUCATION REFORMS



- Competency-Based Curriculum
- Skill Training
- Uniform Syllabus

Competency Based Curriculum

- Focus: Outcome-based learning (Knowledge + Skills + Attitude)
- Defined competencies for each program
- Integration of clinical exposure from early stages
- Assessment: OSCE/OSPE, continuous evaluation
- Ensures job-ready and safe healthcare professionals

Skill Training

- Core to Allied Health Education
- Includes: Technical, Clinical, and Communication skills
- Simulation labs and hands-on hospital training
- Internships and supervised clinical rotations
- Skill logbooks and competency certification

Uniform Syllabus

- Standard curriculum across India
- Defined duration, credits, and clinical hours
- Credit-based and flexible learning system
- Periodic updates aligned with global standards
- Ensures consistency and national mobility



EDU-INSIGHTS

Role of a Principal in Nurturing Students for a Bright Future

MANAGER → CURATOR

Evolving Responsibilities of a Principal in the Modern Age

Dr. C Ananda Vayaravel
Professor and Principal



Mentee program with a Student to Teacher ratio 10:1.

The expansion of the virtual world of teaching due to the suspension of in-person learning during the past year forced me to reach out to and convince several of my friends and colleagues who are currently experts in their respective fields of study to participate in webinar and E-lecture series. This proved to be extremely informative and was very well received.

I am passionate about educating healthcare students

country. (<https://t.me/joinchat/TdH0dSParluY9VdY>)

6. What is the one thing you would like to change in India's higher education system?
One nation-One syllabus (from elementary school to higher education) with uniform pattern of assessment by qualified professionals will be that one thing which I would like to change in India's higher education system.

7. Please share what lies ahead for you and your institute in the near future.
Educating and empowering the students, bringing out their individuality and making a better India through them is what that lies between me and my Institute in the near future.

8. What advice would you like to give those who wish to step into the field of medical education?
Becoming a Medical / Health

INTEGRATED NCAHP MODEL



- CBC + Skill Training + Uniform Syllabus = Quality Assurance
- Produces competent and confident Professionals
- Improves patient safety and healthcare outcomes
- Supports National and Global workforce mobility

REGISTRATION SYSTEM



CENTRAL REGISTER

- Maintained by the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions
- Consolidated database of professionals from all states
- Provides national-level recognition and standardisation
- Facilitates mobility and uniform practice across India

STATE REGISTER

- Maintained by respective State Allied Health Councils
- Contains details of licensed allied health professionals
- Mandatory registration to practice within the state
- Ensures regulation, monitoring, and accountability

INSTITUTIONAL REGULATION



ASPECT	ACCREDITATION	FACULTY NORMS	INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARDS
Definition	Approval of institutions	Standards for teaching staff	Requirements for physical facilities
Authority	National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions	NCAHP guidelines	NCAHP guidelines
Focus	Overall institutional quality	Teacher qualification & ratio	Facilities & learning environment
Components	Curriculum, faculty, infrastructure	Qualification, experience, training	Labs, classrooms, hospital access
Purpose	Ensure standard education	Maintain teaching quality	Provide proper training setup
Outcome	Recognized institution	Competent educators	Effective skill-based learning

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



ASPECT	ONLINE REGISTRY	DIGITAL COMPLIANCE	DATA SYSTEMS
Definition	Digital database of registered professionals	Adherence to rules through digital platforms	Systems for storing & managing data
Authority	National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions	NCAHP regulations	Institutional & National frameworks
Focus	Registration & verification	Monitoring rules & standards	Data collection, storage & analysis
Features	Online records, easy access, transparency	E-reporting, audits, compliance tracking	Databases, analytics, information systems
Purpose	Ensure legal recognition	Maintain regulatory standards	Support decision-making & planning
Outcome	Verified professionals list	Improved accountability	Efficient data-driven healthcare education

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION



ASPECT	TEAM-BASED CARE	COLLABORATIVE TRAINING
Definition	Healthcare delivery by a multidisciplinary team	Training approach involving multiple learners working together
Focus	Patient-centered care	Skill development through teamwork
Participants	Doctors, nurses, allied health professionals	Students from different healthcare disciplines
Key Feature	Shared responsibility in patient management	Group learning, discussion, and interaction
Purpose	Improve patient outcomes and safety	Enhance communication and teamwork skills
Outcome	Efficient, coordinated healthcare delivery	Better preparedness for real clinical teamwork

QUALITY ASSURANCE



STANDARD GUIDELINES

- Defined rules set by NCAHP.
- Ensure uniformity in education & practice
- Cover curriculum, faculty, and infrastructure
- Provide a framework for quality assurance

MONITORING

- Continuous supervision of institutions & programs
- Ensures adherence to guidelines and standards
- Includes inspections, audits, and reporting
- Helps identify gaps and maintain consistency

EVALUATION

- Assessment of performance and outcomes
- Measures effectiveness of training programs
- Includes exams, feedback, and outcome analysis
- Supports improvement and decision-making

PATIENT SAFETY



COMPETENT WORKFORCE

- Well-trained and skill-oriented professionals
- Strong clinical knowledge and practical skills
- Ability to make accurate decisions
- Prepared for real-world healthcare challenges

REDUCED ERRORS

- Simulation and training minimize clinical mistakes
- Use of protocols and standard guidelines
- AI and technology support accurate diagnosis
- Improves patient outcomes and safety

CHALLENGES



'Mandatory to implement NCAHP-prescribed curriculum for 17 allied health courses fro...

NCAHP mandates implementation of a new curriculum for 17 allied health courses starting in the 2026-27 academic year.

thehindu.com

16:50

HOME / NEWS / INDIA / KARNATAKA

New paramedical admission norms may trigger educational crisis, closure of colleges: Sharan Prakash Patil

Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil said the Commission had stipulated that only students who have passed II PUC in the science stream would be eligible for admission to paramedical courses. The rule has created apprehension among institutions in the State.

Updated – March 16, 2026 09:03 pm IST – Bengaluru

THE HINDU BUREAU

CHALLENGES



CHALLENGE	DESCRIPTION	IMPACT	POSSIBLE SOLUTION
1. IMPLEMENTATION GAPS	Delay or inconsistency in applying National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions guidelines	Uneven quality of education across institutions	Strengthen policy execution & regular monitoring
2. AWARENESS ISSUES	Limited knowledge about NCAHP norms among stakeholders	Poor adoption of standards and regulations	Conduct awareness programs & workshops

States/UTs WITHOUT Councils – 11

- Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- Chandigarh
- Chattisgarh
- Delhi
- Haryana
- Jharkhand
- Ladakh
- Lakshadweep
- **Puducherry**
- Uttarakhand

Opportunities in Allied Health Education



OPPORTUNITIES

1. CAREER GROWTH



•Multiple specialization pathways in allied health fields



•Increased demand in hospitals, diagnostics, and academia



•Opportunities for higher education and leadership roles



•Supported by standards from National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Profession

2. GLOBAL MOBILITY



Recognition of qualifications across countries



Better job opportunities abroad



Standardized training improves acceptance globally



Enhances professional exposure and experience

3. RESEARCH SCOPE



Growing opportunities in clinical and academic research



Scope for publications and higher studies (MSc, PhD)



Focus on evidence-based practice



Encourages innovation in healthcare technologies

INDIA V/S GLOBAL

India vs Global: Allied Health Education



India

- ✓ Increasing alignment with WHO guidelines through NCAHP
- ✓ Rapid reforms in curriculum, training, and regulation
- ✓ Growing quality and recognition



Global

- ✓ Strong alignment with WHO standards and global frameworks
- ✓ Well-established, consistently maintained high standards
- ✓ Globally accepted, high-quality workforce

***India** is progressively aligning with global standards to enhance healthcare education quality.*

ROLE IN UHC

Role of Allied Health Professionals in Universal Health Coverage (UHC)



Enhances healthcare accessibility, efficiency, and affordability critical for achieving UHC.



सत्यमेव जयते

FUTURE VISION



AI-Driven Healthcare

- AI in diagnosis & decision-making
- Predictive analytics
- Early disease detection
- Improved efficiency

Personalized Medicine

- Individualized treatment approach
- Based on genetics & lifestyle
- Better outcomes
- Targeted therapy



सत्यमेव जयते

KEY TAKE AWAYS



- National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions is a transformative force in allied health education
- Promotes standardization, quality, and skill-based training
- Education reform is crucial to meet modern healthcare demands
- Technology integration enhances future-ready professionals



सत्यमेव जयते

CONCLUSION



- Development of a **future-ready allied health workforce**
- Emphasis on skill-based, technology-driven education
- Leads to **improved patient care and healthcare outcomes**
- Strengthens the overall healthcare system

Transforming Education Today for a Healthier Tomorrow

AHP: Before and After NCAHP

BEFORE NCAHP

— Pre-2021 —

-  Fragmented Regulation
-  Inconsistent Education
-  No Central Registry
-  Limited Recognition



NCAHP ACT 2021

-  Growing Need for Reform
-  National Commission for Allied & Healthcare Professions

AFTER NCAHP

— Post-2021 —

-  Structured Regulation
-  Standardized Education
-  National & State Registers
-  Enhanced Recognition

Fragmented System

Enactment of NCAHP Act 2021

Standardized & Regulated System



सत्यमेव जयते

EMPOWERMENTS BY NCAHP



ACADEMIC EMPOWERMENT

- Curricula standardization across institutions
- Competency-based training
- National-level entrance and exit examinations

INSTITUTIONAL EMPOWERMENT

- National & State Councils
- Institutional accreditation
- Faculty development
- Research promotion

CAREER EMPOWERMENT

- Licensure and registration
- Defined scope of practice
- Recognition at par with other health professionals
- Opportunity for higher education & mobility



“A strong healthcare system is not built only on doctors and hospitals but on a well-trained, recognised, and empowered allied health workforce.”

NCAHP IS THE FOUNDATION OF THAT EMPOWERMENT.



Call-to-Action



The success of NCAHP does not lie in legislation alone.

It lies in:

- **Institutions** adopting and implementing standards
- **Faculty** delivering quality education
- **Students** embracing professionalism
- **Policy makers** ensuring continuous evolution



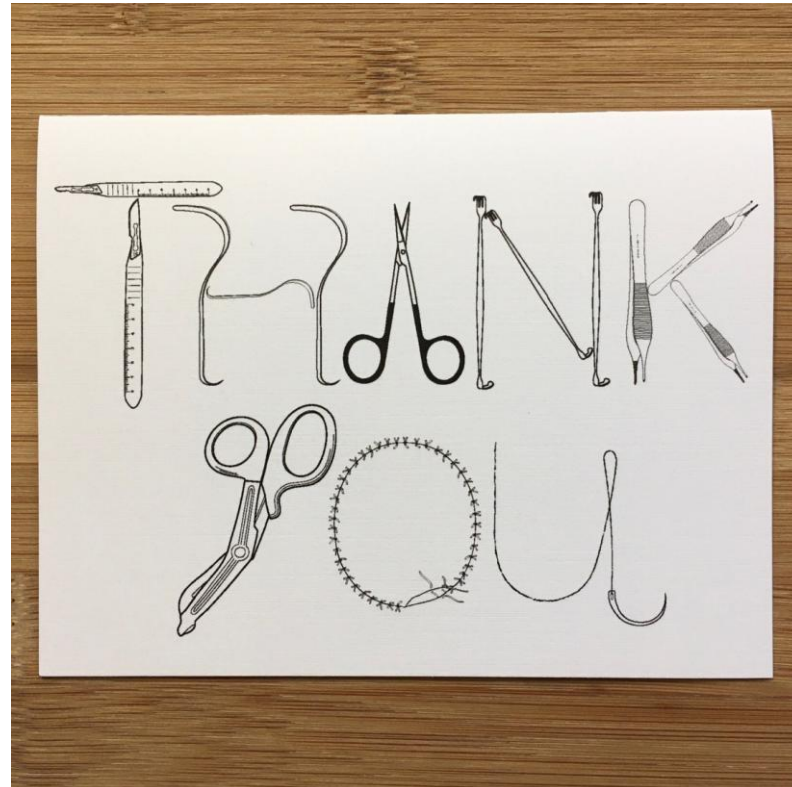
TODAYS PRESENTATION

NCAHP





The future of healthcare lies in the hands of those who are willing to learn, lead, and serve.'





REFERENCES



- National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Act
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) – Policies & guidelines
- World Health Organization – Global health reports