

SCN Working Group on Micronutrients: Information Sharing Template for 2006 and Earlier Activities

Table 1: Demographic Information

Reporting Individual	Stanley Zlotkin
Institution/Organization	Sprinkles Global Health Initiative, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada
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Position	Pediatrician/Professor
Department/Section	Departments of Pediatrics, Nutritional Sciences and Public Health Sciences
Major focus of activities	Policy/Advocacy
Summary of activities	<p>In Pakistan, the control of mineral and vitamin deficiencies has recently been identified as a priority goal by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and specific programmatic interventions have been identified, including the use of Sprinkles. Over the past four years, the Aga Khan University (AKU) and the Hospital for Sick Children (Sprinkles Global Health Initiative) have collaborated on a number of projects. Specifically, three Sprinkles studies have been completed under this collaboration: i) an effectiveness study in an Afghan refugee and Pakistani community in the Northwest Frontier Province showing an anemia cure rate of 40% after two months of Sprinkles use in children aged 6-36 months; ii) an efficacy study in the slums of Karachi showing the daily provision of Sprinkles, including zinc, reduced diarrhea-related morbidity; and iii), a cost/benefit analysis of home-fortification in Pakistan demonstrating that the impact is cost effective and comparable to other primary health care prevention programs. Over the past two years, the AKU/Hospital for Sick Children team has worked with the MoH, the Micronutrient Initiative (MI), local NGOs and civil society organizations in Pakistan to begin the process of taking the Sprinkles intervention to the next steps – to policy and to practice.</p>