Minutes of National Technical Working Group on TB/HIV collaborative activities (NTWG) meeting held on 1st April, 2015 at the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), New Delhi.

The meeting of National Technical Working Group (NTWG) on TB/ HIV was convened at National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) on 1st April, 2015 under chairmanship of Dr.R.S.Gupta, DDG (BSD)/NACO. Dr.S.D.Khaparde, DDG/ (TB)/CTD gave the opening address. The chairman welcomed all participants and briefed the members of NTWG regarding the agenda placed for consideration.

Agenda for the meeting is enclosed as Annexure-I & List of participants is enclosed as Annexure-II

Agenda Item 1: Action taken and decisions on relevant issues on agenda points of last NTWG meeting held on 9/07/2014

Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh PO (HIV/TB)/BSD/NACO presented the action taken based on the recommendations of NTWG meeting held on 09/07/2014. The NTWG discussed following issues & made recommendations:

Regarding involvement of Care coordinators for ICF, it was suggested to monitor this activity & to have indicators & reports on referral done by Care co-coordinators regarding Intensified case finding of TB among PLHIV attending ART/LAC centres using 4 symptom complex screening coupled with RNTCP recommended diagnostic tool. Dr. B.B Rewari NPO ART mentioned Care and Support Centres (CSC) should be sensitized on Intensified Case Finding (ICF) for TB & regular monitoring of ICF at CSC’s.
He also raised concern about awareness status of Out Reach Worker (ORW’s) regarding ICF monitoring indicators.

Dr. B.B Rewari also raised the problem of the distribution and supplies of Rifabutin some states. Dr. Sachdeva K.S. Addl.DDG (TB) asked CST/NACO to provide the requirements.

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan (Director NIRT, Chennai) highlighted the matter regarding clarification of Rifabutin Dose for daily regimen as the earlier OM dated 5th August 2014 from NACO did not clear this point.

**Recommendations of NTWG:**

1. Indicators and report for ICF of TB by care coordinators & care support centres to be developed, and information to be compiled by CST Division/NACO Regularly.

2. Revised OM/Addendum regarding daily dose of Rifabutin to be issued to all concerned by CST/NACO.

3. Requirement for Rifabutin to be submitted to Central TB Division by CST Division/NACO.

**Agenda Item 2:** **Revised Recording & Reporting under TB/HIV**

Dr. B.B. Rewari NPO (ART) presented the revised recording & reporting w.r.t. ART under TB/HIV. Dr. Sreenivas A.N suggested use of newly approved terminologies & case definitions of TB by Central TB Division.

**Recommendations of NTWG:**

NTWG approved to disseminate the revised report and recording formats and new terminologies & case definitions to be used.

**Agenda Item 3:** **Update on Drug Resistant TB Survey in India & revised Technical Operational Guidelines for TB**

Dr. K.S. Sachdeva Addl. DDG TB/ CTD presented on updates on Drug Resistant TB Survey in India & revised Technical Operational Guidelines for
TB. He mentioned NDR-TB survey was launched with objectives to determine the national prevalence of anti tuberculosis drug resistance as well as the proportion of both MDR-TB and XDR-TB among both new and previously treated smear-positive pulmonary tuberculosis diagnosed in India & to measure the level of HIV prevalence among the survey patients and its association with MDR and XDR. He also shared the preliminary results of survey.

DDG (TB) & Dr. Gangakhedkar (Director NARI, Pune) highlighted about non availability of paediatric guidelines regarding Isonaizid Preventive Therapy.

**Recommendations of NTWG:**
It was recommended that an expert group to be formed to develop Paediatric IPT guidelines.

**Agenda Item 4: District Specific Interventions for reducing TB/HIV mortality in India**
Dr. Sreenivas A.N. NPO (TB)-WHO India presented the District specific Interventions for reducing TB/HIV mortality in India. He focused on getting to Zero TB Deaths among PLHIV co infected with TB. Dr. Sreenivas A.N proposed a District targeted plan of action to be developed by both the programmes (NACP & RNTCP) to reduce mortality in TB/HIV co-infected patients in India. Dr. Soumya Swaminathan mentioned about research cum intervention is needed to find out the reasons of death in co-infected cases and highlighted co-morbidity of infections like Cryptococal Meningitis, TB Meningitis & other CNS problems, hepatic toxicity leading to death among PLHIV. Dr Gangakhedkar suggested a study on early warning indicators in HIVTB.

**Recommendations of NTWG:**
1. Situation analysis & modified plan of operation based on epidemiology involving NIRT Chennai & NARI
2. A District targeted plan of action to be developed by both the programmes (NACP & RNTCP)
3. Joint visits to the districts/states with high death rate among TB/HIV to evaluate/find out the reasons of mortality
4. Prioritization of intervention in targeted districts/states.
6. Study on early warning indicators in HIV/TB involving NARI & NIRT, Chennai to reduce the knowledge gap.

Agenda Item 5: Strategy for supervision, Monitoring & Evaluation for HIV/TB Collaborative activities
Dr Rajesh Deshmukh PO (HIV/TB)/NACO presented the Strategy for Supervision, Monitoring & Evaluation for HIV/TB Collaborative activities. He discussed about the newer indicators as per WHO revised Guide to Monitoring & Evaluation of TB/HIV collaborative activities (2015). It was proposed to include these indicators in monitoring & evaluation strategy document of TB/HIV activities in India & disseminate the same.

Recommendations of NTWG:
The NTWG recommended to develop Supervision Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy Document incorporating the updates in the 2015 revised guide to monitoring & evaluation for TB/HIV Collaborative activities by WHO.

The meeting was concluded by summarizing the following action points before thanking all the member of NTWG:

1. To develop the indicators and compile information for ICF for TB by care coordinators & care support centres regularly. (Responsibility: CST Division / NACO)
2. To issue a revised OM/Addendum regarding daily dose of Rifabutin to all concerned officials (Responsibility: CST Division / NACO)

3. Requirement for Rifabutin to be submitted to Central TB Division by CST/NACO. (Responsibility: CST Division / NACO)

4. To disseminate the revised report and recording formats and new terminologies & case definitions to be used. (Responsibility: CST Division / NACO)

5. To develop paediatric guidelines regarding IPT by forming an expert group. (Responsibility: BSD,CST Division / NACO&CTD)

6. To conduct situational analysis & develop district specific plan of action to reduce mortality among HIV/TB co-infected patients involving NIRT Chennai & NARI. (Responsibility: NACO, CTD, NARI & NIRT)

7. Develop & implement district targeted plan of action to reduce mortality among TB/HIV co-infected patients by both the programmes (NACP & RNTCP) (Responsibility: NACO & CTD)

a) Joint visits to the districts/states with high death rate among TB/HIV co-infected patients to evaluate/find out the reasons of mortality (Responsibility: NACO & CTD)

b) Prioritization of intervention in targeted districts/states after national consultation of concerned stakeholders for planning interventions. (Responsibility: NACO, CTD, NARI & NIRT)

c) Study on early warning indicators in HIV/TB involving NARI & NIRT, Chennai to reduce the knowledge gap. (Responsibility: NACO, CTD, NARI & NIRT)

8. To develop Supervision Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy Document referring to updates in the 2015 Revised guide to monitoring & evaluation for TB/HIV Collaborative activities by WHO. (Responsibility: BSD, M&E/NACO & CTD)
# National Technical Working Group (NTWG) Meeting on HIV/TB Collaborative Activities

**Date:** 1st April 2015  
**Time:** 1:30pm  
**Venue:** National AIDS Control Organisation, Committee room, 6th floor, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

## Programme

### Lunch 1.00pm-1.30pm

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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| 1.30pm-1.40pm | Welcome & Meeting Objectives                                              | Dr. R.S. Gupta  
DDG BSD/NACO                                      |
| 1.40pm-1.50pm | Opening Address                                                          | Dr. S.D. Khaparde  
DDG TB/NACO                                        |
| 1.50pm-2.00pm | Action taken and decisions on relevant issues on agenda points of last NTWG meeting held on 09/07/2014 | Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh  
PO(HIV/TB)/NACO                                     |
| 2.00pm-2.20pm | Revised Recording & Reporting under TB/HIV                               | Dr. B.B. Rewari  
NPO ART/Dr. Manish Bamrohiya (PO CST)               |
| 2.20pm-2.40pm | Update on Drug Resistant TB survey in India & revised Technical Operational Guidelines for TB | Dr. K.S. Sachdeva  
Addl.DDG TB /CTD                                    |
| 2.40pm-3.00pm | District Specific Interventions for reducing TB/HIV mortality in India   | Dr. Sreenivas.A.N  
NPO(TB)-WHO India                                    |
| 3.00pm-3.30pm | Update on implementation of Pharmacovigilance                            | Dr. Amar Shah  
National Consultant (TB/HIV)/CTD                     |
| 3.30pm-3.40pm | Strategy for Supervision, Monitoring & Evaluation for HIV/TB collaborative activities | Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh  
PO(HIV/TB)/NACO                                       |
| 3.40pm-3.50pm | Any other points for discussion with permission of Chair                  |                                                        |
| 3.50pm-4.00pm | Closing Comments Adjournment                                               | DDG BSD/NACO                                                             |
Annexure II: List of participants in NTWG meeting on 1st April 2015

- Dr. R. S. Gupta, Deputy Director General, Basic Services Division, National AIDS Control Organization, MOHFW / GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

- Dr. S. D. Khaparde, Deputy Director General (TB), Dte. GHS, MOHFW / GOI, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110108

- Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Director, National Institute of Research in TB (ICMR), Chetput, Chennai 600031

- Dr. K. S. Sachdeva, Additional Director General (TB), Dte. GHS, MOHFW / GOI, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110108

- Dr. B. B. Rewari, National Program Officer (ART) DAC/MOHFW / GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

- Dr. AN Sreenivas, National Professional Officer (TB), WHO India, R K Khanna Tennis Stadium, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029

- Dr. Seguy Nicole Simone, Nodal person for HIV WHO India, R K Khanna Tennis Stadium, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029

- Dr. R. R. Gangakhedkar, Director In-charge, National AIDS Research Institute (ICMR), 73, G-Block, MIDC, Bhosari, Pune 411026

- Dr. Pauline Harvey, Director, DGHA, CDC, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi Shantipath, Chanakyapuri New Delhi - 110 021.

- Dr. Joseph Williams, Project Director, VHS- CDC

- Dr. Asha Hegde (NC PPTCT), NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36- Janpath, New Delhi-110001

- Dr. Shobhna Tehra Joint Director, Basic Service Division, Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society
• Dr.H.L. Vijaya, Addl. Project Director, Karnataka State AIDS Control Society, Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society, No. 4/13-1 Crescent Road, High Grounds, Bengaluru-560001, Karnataka

• Ms.Jahnabi Goswami, Civil Society organisation Representative (HIV), President, Indian Network for Positive People (INP+) Flat No 10, 3rd Floor, Kash Towers, New no:121, old No:94, South West Boag Road, T.Nagar, Chennai 600017

• Mr Boby John ,Principal Advisor, Civil Society organisation Representative – TB, President, Global Health Advocates,6 Basha Street, Hoolaimedu, Chennai 600094, Tamil Nadu.

• Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh, Program Officer (HIV-TB) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Dr. Manish Barmotiya, Program Officer (ART) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Dr. Reshu Agarwal , Manager ,NPMU,CTD

• Dr. Sunny Swarankar, Program Officer (ICTC) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Dr. Reema Gill, Program Officer (Counselling) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Technical Officer (HIV/TB) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• P.Sujith, Technical Officer (M&E) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Mubarak Ali, Technical Officer (PPTCT) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Divya Taneja, Technical Officer (Training) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001

• Reneej, Technical Officer (ICTC) NACO/ MOHFW/GOI, Chandralok Building, 36-Janpath, New Delhi-110001