



Eli Lilly Intervention 3

Training of Traditional healers in TB and DOTS

VASANDHAM SOCIETY, Theni , Tamil Nadu

Partnership for TB care and control in India



About the organization

- Vasandham is registered under Tamilnadu Society registration act on 7th Dec 1987.
- Vasandham entered on Anaemia and Tuberculosis control programme first.
- Until 2004 Vasandham did Microscopic and treatment centre.
- After Government started Primary Health Centre Varusanadu continue the TB Control programme with existing staff only referral and follow up.

Situational analysis – Selection of site

8 Block in our District

152 village panchyats

Total district populations is 1135189

District Population : **1136875**

Tribal Population : **1686**

Non-tribal Population : **1135189**

- Health facilities

Facilities	Numbers
District Hospital/General Hospitals/Referral hospitals /Others	6 modern medicine, 6 Sidha, 1 homoeopathy, total 13
PHC	29
Sub centres	162
TUs	3
DMCs	19

- Annual case detection rate is 78%
no of referrals is 17800

No of THS registered

NGO NAME	BLOCK NAME	Traditional healers
AA	Aundipatty	10
	Palayam	6
	Cumbum	5
Maitri	Theni	16
MMS	Chinnamanur	19
Vasandham	Kadamalai	28
TDNP+	Bodi	13
SRED	Periyakullam	23
Total		120

Implementation of activities

- Identifying the traditional healers at district level
- Training for the THS at block level
- Motivating them for referring suspects cases,
- Linkages with district level RNTCP as DOT provider
- Follow up
- Providing incentives for active THS

Key findings & Observations

- All the cases undergone TB screening which was referred by THS
- 72% of the cases were getting DOTS from THS
- 100% of the cases were under follow up from THS
- THS response is very good to the project from the beginning
- The messages given by the project was transferred to all the members through other THS
- THS and RNTCP officials linkages were established in four blocks
- IECs given by the implementing NGO were hanged in their clinic

- THS will clarify their doubts and myths through phones
- The project is successful because the area was shared and it was implemented

Challenges to implementation

- Follow-up of the THS is very difficult
- Due to government legal steps towards arresting some of the THS are not willing to cooperate
- Remaining four blocks were not covered by this programme
- THS referrals skips were not considered in some DMCs
- Delay in sputum testing, because of non availability of lab technician
- Follow-up sputum is also not taken for the patients
- THS have not received their incentive from RNTCP

Challenges to implementation cont....

- Tested details were not shared with THS
- Follow-up from RNTCP officials on THS activity is very less
- Vasandham board was not willing to take the project when the project with other's name, also did not like to use others vouchers or in others name.
- Board likes to take the programme on its own name.
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Recommendations

- Vasandham society is willing to continue the project for another 3 months to complete the activities
- if possible based on the project extension, rest of the blocks will be covered and also one of the meeting with THS and existing DOTS volunteer meetings will be done.
- Still THS need refresher training about TB.
- All the THS can be linked with district level RNTCP for implementing DOTS effectively
- DOT provider identity cards can be given through RNTCP officials

Vasandham Society in a remote area

