

National Consultative Meeting of the Partnership for TB Care and Control

28th and 29th March 2014

Chennai

Report of the meeting

Members Present

Partners attended: 56 including Governing Body members

Patient and community representatives 10

Special invitees

Advisory Body- PTCC

Mr Subrat Mohanty , The Union, Ms Blessina Kumar, Chair GCTA

Consultants and facilitators

Dr Subash Yadav, Dr Ramya Ananthkrishnan

Objectives of the National Consultative Meeting

1. To provide a platform for experience sharing among partners
2. To strengthen the relationship between partners to work together towards the common goal of TB Care and control
3. To engage partners through thematic groups for identifying issues and suggesting solutions to address the issues
4. To have State wise consultations facilitated by State focal points to set the agenda for their respective states and finalize a work plan for each state according to the issues highlighted by the thematic groups

Day one - March 28th

Inaugural Program

The national meeting began with the inaugural address by the Chair PTCC Dr S.N. Misra

Welcoming all the partners Dr Misra highlighted the growth of PTCC to 177 members and observed that as such a strong body PTCC could make a tremendous impact on TB care and control and through the partners could achieve the mission of leading advocacy efforts for the rights of every individual affected by TB, facilitating universal access to quality services of TB care and control by engaging all sectors and all sections of the community

Dr Misra also explained that the objectives of the meeting was to discuss the issues both based on the State as well as the Thematic groups and decide on key action points for the each state to come up with at the end of the meeting.

Introduction of Partners

Partners introduced themselves and briefly described their activities

Update on PTCC

Dr Nalini Krishnan Secretary PTCC provided an update on the PTCC. The main highlights were the registration of PTCC as a registered society, growth of the partnership as well as an outline of the objectives as well as activities for the year under project Axshya as follows

Overall objectives for the year 2014-15

- Positioning the Partnership as an effective relevant and cohesive organization that will support and strengthen activities that improve the lives of patients affected with TB
- Increase our visibility and seek representation in working groups and consultations at the District, State and National levels
- Advocate for increase of funding to civil society through domestic sources including GOI and Companies through the CSR component
- Serve as a resource pool of expertise and finances.

- Function as an Interface agency between
Partners and government
Partners and donors

Advocacy

- Advocacy efforts both at high-level and across the general population:
- Identifying and training a pool of TB spokespersons or Advocates
- Formation of a patient forum which will liaise with the TB parliamentary forum
- Strengthen the Advocacy thematic group to look into various issues like:
- Over the counter sale of TB drugs
- Advocate against serological tests for TB diagnosis

Thematic Groups

Thematic groups to develop plans to address priority issues within the different themes

State Focal Points

To bring partners within the state together

To energise the interaction between the State TB Office and Partners

To increase membership, bringing in partners who can contribute to the efforts

To look at fund raising opportunities within the States

Presentation of the Financial Report

Dr Abhijeet Sangma, treasurer PTCC apprised the gathering on the financial status of the organisation. He explained the process of PTCC becoming an SSR to Emmanuel Hospitals Association EHA after due diligence was completed. He also explained that the finance and HR policy was in place and PTCC had opened a bank account as well as obtained a PAN Card. Other income tax compliances were to be shortly completed

Dr Sangma thanked those members who has paid the membership fees and requested all members to do so as well as to help PTCC in fundraising. Dr Sangma introduced Mr Vinay Garg who has joined as Finance Manager PTCC to the members.

The inaugural function concluded with the introduction of the advisors and facilitators

Mr Subrat Mohanty from the Union Ms Blessina Kumar Chair GCTA, Dr Subash Yadav, Consultant and Dr Ramya REACH who would be facilitating the discussions and group work

Sessions

Two special sessions were held to set the stage for the detailed discussions to follow in the groups and to help the groups identify key areas as well as populations to be taken into account while panning the next steps for the thematic Groups

The sessions were:

Key affected populations: the concept - Presented and discussed by Blessina Kumar

New Funding Model of the Global Fund- Presented and discussed by Dr S.N.Misra

Thematic Group agenda setting and group work and presentations

Discussions led by Thematic group leads and Facilitators (Ms. Blessina Kumar, Dr. Subash Yadav, Mr. Subrat Mohanty)

This was followed by the presentations from each thematic group identifying the gaps, possible solutions and action points for PTCC member organisations

Detailed report attached separately

Discussion on the PTCC Directory

Dr Ramya Ananthakrishnan presented the update on the PartnersDirectory .As many of the organisations had to update theirprofiles they were guided through the format and requested to fill in the details

Outcome

All partners present updated their profile

Next steps

State focal points to contact partnerswho had nor attended the meeting to complete their profiles

State wise Group work

Introduction and outline of expectations

Dr Subash Yadav consultant and Ms Sunita Prasad GB Member and Coordinator, State Focal Points gave an outline of the framework for the discussions. The action

points highlighted both thematic groups would be taken up for discussion by the State Groups and one or two priority areas would be taken up for the State to work with.

Day 2 March 29th

State Presentations State Focal points presented the outcomes of the State wise discussions and would follow up with discussions in their state with other partners and the final action plan would be shared.

Presentation of Awards for TB Champion 2013

The Partnership has been supported by Dr Madhukar Pai Associate Professor, McGill University and Global Health Strategies to award individuals and organizations who have done outstanding work for TB control and care and support for patients as **TBChampions** of the year.

The awards for the TB Champions of the year were given at the National meeting at a special session. The chief guest was Mr N.Ravi, Editor, The Hindu newspaper, Chennai, who felicitated the champions and gave the awards which carried a cash prize of Rs 50000 and a citation.

Dr Misra, Chair Dr Vijay Edward and Mr Mohanadoss and Dr Langkham GB Members felicitated the winners.

TB Champion Award winners for 2013

In the individual category.

The award was shared by Shri Gautam Roy and Shri Gautam Majumdar Panchayat pradhans from West Bengal Nominated by Dr Bandita Sengupta ,Care WB for their initiative in providing nutritional support and livelihood for over 100 TB patients

In the Institution category

Jan Swasthya Sahyog a grassroots organisation working in Chhattisgarh, nominated by Dr Madhukar Pai for their grassroots work in representing patients' rights to better TB Care services

Poster presentation

Partners were requested to bring posters which described their work and also outlined what they would do to advocate for TB Care and Control. The poster session was very successful with more than 50 posters being submitted and explained to the panel of judges Dr Langkham, Dr Subash Yadav and Dr Misra

The award for the best posters which went to REACH and DAUD, IDF

Summarizing the Discussions and valedictory session

The meeting ended with concluding remarks from Dr Misra, Chair PTCC who thanked the Partners for their wholehearted participation and urged all partners to continue to network in their States as well as with other Partners.

Dr Subash Yadav, consultant appreciated the work done by the groups and suggested that each State identify one priority area from each thematic group and work to address these priorities.

Several members shared their feedback and appreciation for the event at the concluding open house session