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Research Article

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Many countries faced problem with inaccessibility to the facilities of TB treatment, which ended up with limited success in controlling TB. The problem has been addressed through the integration of national tuberculosis programme with general health services, which is implementation of internationally recommended TB control strategy, DOTs (Directly Observed Therapy with short course chemotherapy) strategy. In Bangladesh this initiative has largely been taken by some established NGOs with which the government is collaborating. The programme has been being implemented at the feld level for more than two decades. In 2014 we assessed the quality of care in the DOTs centers by measuring the facilities and programme outcomes.

We collected both providers' and patients' perspectives by employing pretested questionnaires. To draw the providers' perspectives, the feld team interviewed 92 health workers and for patients' perspectives the feld team interviewed 357 patients from the selected DOTs centers. We presented data by calculating the frequency of each assessment indicators.

We observed that 59% centers had staining facilities at the center. In 99% centers they had medicine available all the time. 76% patients stated that the distance between centers and their residences is <1 kilometer. 97% centers had accessible road to the centers. 76% providers knew consequences of treatment failure. 31% patients knew the mode of transmission. 1% patients knew the duration of treatment. 73% patients knew consequences of treatment failure.

Almost all the DOTs centers ensured availability of medicine. Most of the DOTs centers are located near to the enlisted patients' residences and are accessible through public transportation. However, knowledge of TB transmission and fate is unclear among both the providers and the patients. New programme approach could be explored to improve the knowledge level of controlling tuberculosis to optimum.

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