

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Revised National TB control Programme – role of Multipurpose Health Workers and Supervisors – instructions issued.

As you are well aware in the Revised National Tuberculosis control Programme (RNTCP), the responsibility of cure of Tuberculosis has been shifted from the patient to the health system. The peripheral health staffs namely Junior Health Inspectors and Junior Public Health Nurses are very important functionaries under RNTCP. The Programme envisages persuading Chs: Symptomatic to undergo sputum smear examination for diagnosis of TB, on detection of TB, the peripheral health personnel have to function as Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) providers and trace and bring back the patient to DOT if the patient defaults. The real intention of DOT is to develop a human bonded relationship with the patient and not mechanically watching the patient.

Hence all DMOH's are requested to intimate the Medical Officers and subordinate staff to take up the above-mentioned duties and responsibilities under RNTCP effectively.

Whenever providing DOT is entrusted to a voluntary worker or teacher or a community leader, the multipurpose health worker in PHC/CHC/Medical Institution should periodically over see the implementation. Submission of monthly reports to Medical Officer i.e. of the institution is the responsibility of the JPHN/JHI, even when DOT is entrusted to a voluntary worker / teacher / community leader.

It is also decided to utilize the services of Anganwadi workers in RNTCP as DOT providers. Collecting reports about patients served by Anganwadi workers also will be done by JPHN / JHI.

Supervisory field staff should be instructed to conduct routine supervision of the activities of the peripheral staff under RNTCP. They may also be instructed to keep up to date record of RNTCP activities for the scrutiny of the District state Level Officers.

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES.

To : All the District Medical Officers of Health.