

System for Ensuring Uniform Standards of TB Care in Member Hospitals

What is STEPS Center?

STEPS Centers are a single window mechanisms by the private hospitals to carry out all the operational aspects of TB and to ensure all TB patients diagnosed in the hospital receive high standards of TB care.

Functions of STEPS:-

STEPS Center carry out all the internal day-to-day operational aspects reg. Tuberculosis care in the Hospital

- Case Notification at the point of Diagnosis
- Adherence monitoring and case follow-up support for treating physician
- Work as an interphase b/w Govt and Patients for ensuring all the public health actions
- Patient counseling

Why STEPS Center is required?

The private healthcare sector is the first point of contact for more than 50% of the population for TB Diagnosis and care in the country is having a very significant role to play in supporting the Nation. However, the limited ability of private hospitals to monitor and promote adherence in TB treatment remains a challenge.

Steps in establishing STEPS centres

1. **Nominating a Team:** Nodal Medical Officer & Co-ordinator/s within the hospital by the hospital management for co-ordinating STEPS Centre (STEPS Co-ordinator could preferably be a nurse or PRO or a dedicated staff)
2. **Training of the co-ordinator/s** on STEPS, STCI, NTEP and NIKSHAY App
3. **Sensitisation** within the hospital about STEPS centres and its function

Organogram of STEPS Center

Nodal Medical Officer: [Pulmonologist / Infectious Disease / Gen. Medicine]

Coordinator: [Dedicated staff assigned for the system]

An internal medical Committee / Integrate STEPS in the existing Medical board agenda for monthly discussion on STEPS

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Working of STEPS Centre



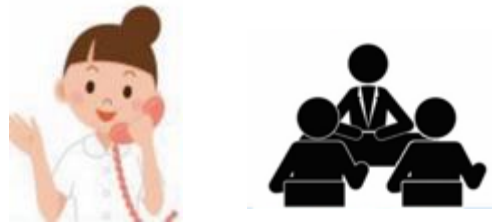
The doctor identifies the patient as TB Presumptive / TB Positive or Lab identifies Test Positive for TB or Anti TB Drug dispensed from the Pharmacy or TB Patient admitted in IP



Doctor / Physician assistant pass information about the new patient to the STEPS coordinator of the Hospital



Exchange of information within systems and between systems



STEPS Centre will carry out TB Notification, Follow up Support, and linkages for Public Health Action supporting the treating physician



Patient completes the treatment Successfully