

Module 3. Case Finding

Organizing Principle

The course walks you through the different policies and procedures in NTP implementation following the chapters of the NTP MOP, 5th ed. This chapter is on case finding.

Allot about 3 hours for you to finish this module.

Learning Objectives

After studying this module, you should be able to:

1. define key NTP terms;
2. properly classify TB cases;
3. explain the policies in case finding;
4. identify presumptive TB cases;
5. describe the proper collection and transport of sputum specimens;
6. be familiar with the procedures for DSSM, Xpert MTB/RIF, and TST;
7. correctly fill up the forms used in and generate reports related to case finding;
8. explain how diagnosis of EPTB is done;
9. explain how diagnosis is made based on laboratory results; and
10. describe how intensified case finding is done.

Learning Activities

For this module, you will (i) watch a video, (ii) read documents, (iii) go through some slides, (iv) do some exercises, (v) participate in a discussion forum, and (vi) participate in a live chat session. You are expected to answer all the exercises correctly. You may try as many times as needed to get a perfect score.

Let us begin.

Before we proceed to the actual chapter on case finding in the MOP, let us do a quick review of the basic facts about tuberculosis. We will do this by watching a video.

Click on the URL in our course site for *How the Body Reacts to Tuberculosis*. This is a video produced and uploaded to YouTube by Médecins Sans Frontières in March 2014. It is described as “an easily digestible animation showing how TB spreads and is fought by our bodies. The animation shows the different ways the TB bacterium can develop into the disease, either through overwhelming the immune system (common in children) or by latent TB waking up and becoming active (common for those with weak immune systems such as older people, those who are HIV positive, or have had organ transplants or chemotherapy).”

Take note of the following guide questions while viewing it:

- a. What causes tuberculosis?
- b. What happens when people get infected with TB? What are the signs and symptoms of the disease?
- c. How does it spread?
- d. How is it treated?

Once you are able to answer the questions above, proceed to the next activity.

I. Read pages 16 to 18 of Chapter 2 of NTP MOP, 5th ed.

Keep in mind the objectives of this module. Be guided by the learning objectives for this module.

Try answering these guide questions:

- a. What is case finding? What are the objectives and scope of case finding? (See page 16.)
- b. List the diagnostic tests for TB. Describe each of them. Explain how their results aid in TB diagnosis (see page 16.)
- c. Study the key terms listed on pages 16–18. To help you remember them, contribute to building the Glossary of this module.

After reading the said pages, you may check out Slide Set #3.0 where the main points of the chapter are highlighted.

II. Definition of Terms

Take time to study carefully the definition of terms on pages 16–18. Jot them down to reinforce what you have read. This step is especially important for those who are new in the program.

III. Now, go back to reading Chapter 2. Use the following as study guide questions:

A. Explain the four ways by which TB disease can be classified and their sub-categories: (Each TB case must be classified accordingly. See pages 18–20.)

1. Based on bacteriological status
 - a. Bacteriologically confirmed
 - b. Clinically diagnosed
2. Based on anatomical site
 - a. Pulmonary TB (PTB)
 - b. Extrapulmonary TB (EPTB)
3. Based on history of previous treatment
 - a. New case
 - b. Retreatment case
4. Based on drug-susceptibility testing
 - a. Monoresistant TB
 - b. Polydrug-resistant TB
 - c. Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB)
 - d. Extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB)
 - e. Rifampicin-resistant TB (RR-TB)

B. Explain the different policies related to case finding listed on pages 20–21.

C. Describe the different procedures related to case finding.

1. Identification of presumptive TB case
 - a. What are the four steps in identifying presumptive TB cases? (See pages 21–23.)
 - b. There is a difference between how patients 15 years old and above are assessed for presumptive TB compared with those less than 15 years old. Explain. (See pages 21–22.)

Do you think you are ready for the first exercise? If yes, then proceed. If not, review the pages listed above and/or go through Slide Set #3.0 to reinforce what you have learned.

IV. Do Exercise 3.1: Identifying Presumptive TB Cases

Exercise No. 3.1 will test your ability to detect presumptive TB cases.

Click on *Exercise 3.1* to work on the 4-item exercise online. Remember to click “Submit all and finish” at the end of the exercise so that your attempt will be recorded as finished and scored. You will automatically receive feedback on your answers after each try. You are expected to get a score of 100%. You may try as many times as needed to achieve that score.

If you do not agree with the “correct” answers given, raise your question in the chat session or post your comments in the discussion forum set up for this module. Your co-learners are also invited to comment or offer answers to issues or questions raised.

V. Continue reading Chapter 2

Read the remaining pages of Chapter 2 and describe the rest of the procedures related to case finding:

- a. Collection and transport of sputum specimens (See pages 23–24.)
- b. Procedure for direct sputum specimen microscopy (See pages 24–25.)
- c. Procedure for Xpert MTB/RIF (See pages 25–26.)
- d. Tuberculin skin testing (See page 26.)
- e. Diagnosis of extrapulmonary TB (EPTB) (See page 26.)
- f. Decision on diagnosis based on laboratory results (See pages 26–27, 31–32.)
- g. Intensified case finding (See pages 27–30.)
 - Screening household contacts of susceptible TB cases
 - Screening household contacts of DR-TB cases
 - Screening in jails and prisons
 - TB in urban and rural poor areas
 - People living with HIV (PLHIV)
 - TB during disasters

Take time to carefully study Figure nos. 5 and 6 on pages 31–32. Figure no. 5 is the diagnostic algorithm, while Figure no. 6 is for the screening of pediatric drug-susceptible household contacts of TB. They will prove useful in screening and diagnosis.

VI. Do Exercise 3.2: Deciding on Next Step Based on Result of Diagnostic Test

This exercise will test your ability to identify the next step to take depending on diagnostic test results. Click *Exercise 3.2* on the course site. There will be three cases for you to work on. Remember to click “Submit all and finish” so that each attempt is recorded as finished, scored, and feedback given.

As in Exercise 3.1, the feedback given will guide you to arrive at the correct answers. Again, if your answers differ from the correct answers, review the MOP, then go through the exercise again until you get a score of 100%.

VII. Do Exercise 3.3: Accomplishing NTP Forms for Case Finding

In Exercise 3.3, you will practice filling up forms used in case finding. Please refer to the *Activity Guide for Exercise 3.3: Accomplishing NTP Forms for Case Finding* for detailed instructions.

VIII. Do Exercise 3.4: Assigning TB Disease Classification

Exercise 3.4 will assess your ability to classify cases according to anatomic site and bacteriologic status. There are five cases which you have to work on.

Click on *Exercise 3.4* and proceed as with the previous exercises. Click “Submit and finish” once done to get your score and feedback. You must get a score of 100%. You can do the exercise repeatedly until you get a perfect score.

IX. View Slide Set #3

To review this chapter of the MOP, view Slide Set #3. Highlighted in the slides are the salient points in the said chapter.

X. Participate in the Discussion Forum (required)

You are required to post your comments or questions related to this module in the discussion forum for this week even if you have no issues to raise or reflections to share. The answers to the exercises will be discussed here. You are expected to correct your answers to the exercises after these have been discussed in the forum. You must re-upload your corrected answers to the exercises.

XI. Participate in the Live Chat Session (optional)

You are encouraged to participate in the live chat session for the week. The date and time for the chat will be announced. Refer to the *Guide to Live Chat Sessions* for detailed instructions. Please enter the chat room at least 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the session. Please be ready to share any comments or questions you may have on this module, if any.

XII. Reflection

Go back to the learning objectives and reflect on whether you have achieved all of them. Check if you have answered all the exercises for this module correctly. If not, repeat the entire module or parts of the module as needed. If you have answered all exercises correctly, then...

Congratulations for finishing Module 3!

References

Department of Health. (2014). *National tuberculosis control program manual of procedures, 5th edition* [Electronic version]. Retrieved from http://itis.doh.gov.ph/mop_2014.pdf

Department of Health. (2014). Slide sets for Training on the Revised Manual of Procedures. Available from the National Tuberculosis Control Program Management Office (NTPMO) of the Department of Health

Médecins Sans Frontières. (2014, March 20). *How the Body Reacts to Tuberculosis*. [video file].

Retrieved from

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGZLkRN76Dc&list=PLpkLcO7nhYeTELNDjhD3Bt1gZhs0N91Mg&index=1>