Module 8. TB-DOTS Referral System

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 the TB-DOTS Referral System.

Allot about 1-2 hours for you to finish this module.

Learning Objectives

After studying this module, you should be able to:

1. explain the importance of the TB-DOTS referral system,
2. define key terms used in the TB-DOTS referral system,
3. explain the policies in the TB-DOTS referral system,
4. describe the different procedures in TB-DOTS referral system, and
5. correctly fill up the forms used in referring patients.

Learning Activities

For this module, you are required to (i) read documents, (ii) go through some slides, (iii) do an exercise, and (iv) participate in a discussion forum. You will also participate in a live group chat session where Module 8 will be discussed. You are expected to answer all the exercise correctly. As in the previous module, you may try as many times as needed to get all your answers right.

Let us begin.

    I.   Read Chapter 7

Read Chapter 7 of the NTP MOP, 5th ed. keeping in mind the objectives of this module.

Try to answer these guide questions:

    a. Describe the wide array of health care providers who provide TB care services and who may form part of the TB-DOTS referral network. (See page 118
    b. List the major reasons for referrals. (See page 118)
    c. Explain key terms related to the TB-DOTS referral system. (See page 119)
        1. Referral process
        2. Referring facility
        3. Receiving facility
        4. Referral feedback
        5. Internal referral system
        6. External referral system

    II.   Definition of Terms

Take time to carefully study the definition of terms on page 119. Jot them down to reinforce what you have read. This step is especially important for those who are new in the program.

    III.   Continue reading Chapter 7

Read pages 119–122 of the MOP. Answer the following guide questions:

    a.   Explain the policies related to the TB-DOTS referral system.
    b.   Describe the proper referral procedures. Download the sample forms and study them.
         1.   Hospital Internal Referral System (See page 120)
         2.   External TB Referral System (See pages 120–121)
         3.   Referring Presumptive DR-TB (See page 121)
         4.   Handling TB Patients Previously Managed Outside DOTS Facility and not Referred According to NTP Policies and Procedures (See page 121–122)
         5.   Modes of Knowing the Outcome of Referral (See page 122)
         6.   Strengthening and Sustaining the TB-DOTS Referral System (See page 122)

    IV.   View Slide Set #8 as a review of the chapter.

    V.   Do Exercise #8

Click on *Exercise #8.* This exercise will test your ability to correctly accomplish NTP referral forms. Please refer to the *Activity Guide for Exercise 8: Accomplishing NTP Referral Forms* for detailed instructions. You may try as many times as needed to get a perfect score. The answers will be discussed in the discussion forum.

If you did not get the answers correctly the first time, review Chapter 7. Then do the exercise again until you can confidently give the correct answers and justify their correctness.

If you do not agree with the "correct" answers given, post your comments or questions in the discussion forum or during the live chat session set up for this module.

    V.   Participate in the Discussion Forum

You are required to post your comments or questions in the discussion forum for this week which will cover Modules 8, 10 and 11. Refer to the *Guide to Discussion Forums* for detailed instructions. The answers to the exercises for these modules will be discussed towards the middle of the week in the forum. You are expected to re-submit your answers to the exercises if there are errors in your initial submission. Remember that you are expected to get all the answers right.

    VI.   Participate in the Live Chat Session (optional)

As in the previous module, you are encouraged to participate in the live chat session which will cover Modules 8, 10 and 11. The date and time for the session 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. Be ready to share your answers to the exercises and any comments or questions you may wish to raise.

    VI.   Reflection

Go back to the learning objectives for this module and reflect if you have achieved all of them. If you answered no, go through the chapter again as needed. If you answered yes, then…

Congratulations for finishing Module 8!

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 NTP manual of procedures 5th edition. Available from the National Tuberculosis Control Program Management Office (NTPMO) of the Department of Health