

HEALTH INTERNETWORK INDIA- TUBERCULOSIS

- Pilot Project

At the instance of Dr. Fabio Luelmo, Medical Officer, TB strategy and operations (IBS), WHO Geneva, who visited the National Tuberculosis Institute (NTI), Bangalore on 24th May 2001 informed the decision of WHO about the project "Health Internetwork (HIN) India - Tuberculosis" to provide access nationally & globally to the data/information generated in India on various aspects of "Tuberculosis" published in Indian/Foreign periodicals; non conventional media; programme reports on RNTCP, success stories; Discussion board etc., under one portal on the internet. Under this project, full text of important publications will also be made available on the net. In this connection, Dr. Shyama Kuruvilla, Global Health leadership Officer WHO, Geneva held meetings with Director I/c; Officer I/c for Library & Publication & Sr. Librarian on 24th May 2001. During the meeting it was decided that the NTI which has contributed much to the formulation of TB control programme by conducting important operational research studies and has the adequate library resources will be taking up the initiative and will be the nodal center for the project.

Subsequently several meetings were held to take timely decisions. Mr. Ranjan Dwivedi is the country National program manager WHO, SEARO; Dr Nirmala Murthy, Director of Foundation research in Community Health, Ahmedabad as the Local program co ordinator, and a local project committee at NTI was formulated with Director, NTI, Mr KP Unnikrishnan CSO as the project co ordinator with Mrs Sudha S. Murthy Sr. librarian and Mr R. Jitendra as members. .

The NTI will take charge of content development by looking into following facets

Quantification of published data on TB from the year 1980.

Decision the document to be included into the Database

Out of the documents selected for the database, prioritization of the most important documents for

digitalization, which, under the HIN project is known as "E-publishing"

Out of the documents included into the database, repackaging of information will take place to meet the information needs of:

1. Bureaucrats (i.e., policy makers, administrators etc.)
2. Academicians
3. Research Worker
4. Programme Workers
5. General Practitioners
6. Paramedical Workers
7. Pharmacists
8. Clinicians
9. Common public

Acceptable International Standard template will be followed for the data entry. Five participating institutions viz. NTI, Bangalore, TRC, Chennai, VP Chest Institute, Delhi, LRS Institute of TB, New Delhi & TAI, New Delhi will send the data in soft copy for inclusion in the data base; A thorough scrutiny shall be done with regard to thesis from PG Medical students.

Need Assessment Survey

Further a Need assessment survey (HIN project) was conducted by the Foundation for Research in Health Systems, Ahmedabad at the state and district level (Kanakapura Taluk and Doddaballapura Taluk) to assess the Information needs of users at different levels. The data was collected by using structured pretested proformae. Separate questionnaires were used for Programme administrators, Researchers, Government Medical Officers, Private Medical Officer, Laboratory Technicians and Para-medical workers. In total 30 government health care providers, policy makers and private health care providers at the state level and 135 government and private health care providers at the district level were interviewed. Complete report of the survey will be presented in the workshop to be conducted by the Program co ordinator.