

Delegate Hand-out for Activity 3: Obligation to Provide Access to TB Services

Questions

- For the community you serve, what is the most critical barrier that limits access to TB services, particularly for vulnerable groups?
- What actions would you propose to remove these barriers in order to ensure the ethical obligation to provide access to TB services is upheld?

Instructions

- Divide into groups, based on the facilitator's instructions
- Move to the place designated for your group
- Read through the questions and information provided in the section below titled 'Setting the Scene'
- Designate someone who will report back in the plenary discussion
- Spend the 20 minute discussion time in the following way:
 - Each group member should share the most critical barrier they face in terms of providing access to TB services, with specific regard to vulnerable groups, such as the poor or children and actions they propose or that they currently use to address this barrier
 - Group members should provide comments or feedback to each other and suggest alternate solutions, based on their own experiences in similar circumstances
 - Note your barrier and potential solutions on this hand-out
- Participate in the plenary discussion

Setting the Scene

Prevention, diagnosis, care and treatment of TB, both drug-susceptible and drug-resistant TB, raise important ethical and human rights issues that must be addressed. For example, TB particularly affects poor and vulnerable populations, and therefore social justice and equity must be at the heart of the response. TB can be a lethal infectious disease, which in the absence of proper treatment and care of patients and control of the epidemic, raises questions on how to ensure a balance of individual responsibilities, rights and liberties of those affected by the disease, with the protection of those who are at risk of infection.*

**Companion Handbook to the WHO Guidelines for the Programmatic Management of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2014. 21, Ethics in programmatic management of MDR-TB.*

Questions and Responses

1. For the community you serve, what is the most critical barrier that limits access to TB services, particularly for vulnerable groups?

2. What actions would you propose to remove these barriers in order to ensure the ethical obligation to provide access to TB services is upheld?
