

Delegate Hand-out for Activity 4: Health Care Worker Rights and Obligations

Question

What potential gaps and challenges could prevent health care workers from being protected when managing people at risk of or those with TB?

Instructions

- Divide into groups, based on the facilitator's instructions
- Move to the place designated for your group
- Nominate a spokesperson, note-taker and timekeeper for the group
 - The note-taker will be responsible for writing down the responses provided by the group members
 - The spokesperson will be responsible for providing feedback from the group during the plenary discussion
 - The timekeeper will ensure that the discussion is kept on track
- Read through the question and information provided in the section below titled 'Setting the Scene'
- Participate in group and plenary discussions

Setting the Scene

Health care workers play an essential role in the provision of health services. Their core role is to care for the sick and injured. They are often viewed as 'immune' to injury or illness, as they are called upon to put patients first. This places them at much higher risk of exposure to viruses, bacteria and parasites, which can be transmitted through the air or through body fluids, such as TB, HIV and Hepatitis B.

Their risk of exposure to TB specifically may be increased by less than optimal working conditions such as overcrowding, poor ventilation, inadequate infection control measures and insufficient personal protective equipment.

It is recognised that protecting health care workers also contributes to quality care. Some of the same measures to protect patients from infections should be instituted to protect health care workers.

Question

What potential gaps and challenges could prevent health care workers from being protected when managing people at risk of or those with TB?

Response
