

Effectiveness of active case detection for tuberculosis finding using mobile team activities in hard-to-reach area, Laukkai Township, Northern Shan State, Myanmar

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Abstract

In Myanmar, active Tuberculosis (TB) case detection has been initiated since 2011 to retrieve the hidden TB cases. An innovative method using two times of mobile team activities was conducted among 15 years and above adults in Laukkai Township during July to October of 2014. It was aimed to observe the changes of TB case notification and its contribution in the study township. Local government commitment was obtained. Providing health talks and broadcasting TB information in local Television news channel about were done. Community was informed about the mobile team activities in advance. All the detected cases were provided with TB treatment and local Basic Health Staff took the role of case holding. Irrespective of TB signs and symptoms, participants were invited for taking clinical history and Chest X-Ray (CXR). Sputum samples for microscopy were taken if there were any abnormalities. Doubtful cases were confirmed by sputum culture results. There were 2064 and 923 participants participated in each activity. During the first and second activities, CXR was taken for 99.0% and 99.2%, respectively. Sputum sample was done with 14.4% and 20.8% of the participants. Among them 13.9% and 18.1% were requested for sputum culture. Bacteriological confirmed TB cases detected were 22 and 10 at the first and second activities, respectively. Eighty-five cases of all form TB were detected at the first time and it was 41 at the second time. The notified TB cases were not statistically difference between the two activities. Contribution of notified TB case (all form TB) was 23.2% (126/543) in the township. The tested method contributed more than one-fifth of the case notification although it shows no significant reduction in second activity.