



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

23 March 2016

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2016 - 0133

TO: SECRETARY KADIL M. SINOLINDING JR., DOH-AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO AND ALL DOH REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Integration of the Programmatic Management of Drug-resistant Tuberculosis (PMDT) Services into Basic Directly Observe Treatment Short course (DOTS) Services in all Health Facilities

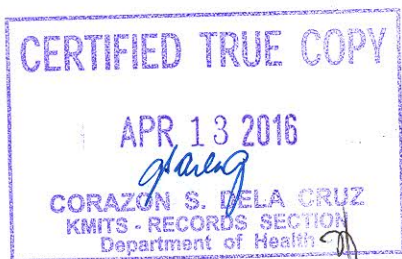
According to the World Health Organization (WHO), multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) cases remain high in the Philippines. In 2014, there are 11,100 estimated MDR-TB cases in the country based on 2015 Global TB Report. Further, the notification rate in 2015 is 43% while the treatment success rate (TSR) in 2012 is 49% which are below the target. For 2016, the National TB Control Program (NTP) targets to increase notification rate by 62% and TSR by 75%.

In order to achieve these targets, the NTP of the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau in collaboration with partners have piloted and implemented various diagnostic and treatment initiative to address and overcome the challenges of PMDT implementation. One of the strategies is *the Integrated DOTS (iDOTS)* initiative with **Community Based PMDT Care (ComPCare)** to improve access to PMDT services and ultimately lead to early diagnosis and treatment of DR-TB Cases.

iDOTS is a strategy that integrates PMDT policies and procedures with the basic DOTS at the health facilities. This adopts the WHO recommendation of instituting patient-centered care approach in TB Management. Through *iDOTS*, the health facilities shall diagnose, register and treat DR-TB patients within their catchment areas.

In this regard, all Regional NTP Coordinators are hereby directed to implement the *iDOTS with ComPCare* initiative. For questions and clarifications, please contact Dr. Mary Rosary T. Santiago, PMDT Specialist, NTP Management Office, through (02)2309626, (63)9175128710 or maryrosarytaguinod0@gmail.com.

For information and compliance.




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Secretary of Health