

Assessment of the costs, effects and cost effectiveness of the DOTS PLUS program in Nepal

NTP Nepal implemented a DOTS PLUS pilot project in September 2005. NTP Nepal has a plan to scale-up DOTS PLUS services. Therefore, there is a need to assess the cost, effects and cost effectiveness of this pilot scheme. Thus, this study aims to determine how feasible it is from an economic perspective to integrate the DOTS PLUS program into the NTP in Nepal.

This study identified the total cost of treating a MDR TB patient under the scheme, by collecting cost information from initial 150 MDR-TB patients registered in the DOTS plus program. Likewise, it collected health system and community costs, incurred to treat those patients. Effectiveness of this scheme was analyzed by comparing the treatment outcome of initial 150 cases with the treatment outcome of non-DOTS plus patients.

Patient interviews have been conducted and health service cost related information were collected at NTC and GENETUP. Likewise treatment outcome of non-DOTS plus (Cat 1 Failure patients) were also collected from NTP record.

