

A SHARED JOURNEY TOWARDS HOPE

The Patient Support Group (PSG) is an approach to building patient-friendly facilities, which provides a safe space for



sharing of treatment experiences by TB patients and caregivers



informal interaction with healthcare providers



peer support to build confidence and overcome stigma

ESTABLISHING A PSG



Identify suitable DMCs, discuss with staff and assess feasibility to set up a PSG



Inform TB patients about the meetings and encourage them to attend

Improved self-esteem and confidence to overcome challenges and complete treatment

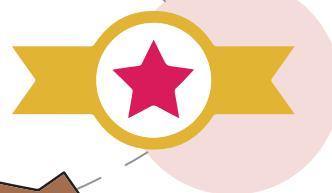
Improved communication between healthcare providers, patients and caregivers through provision of counselling



Identify potential TB champions at PSGs



Conduct 40-50 minute long meetings where patients and caregivers share treatment experiences, raise concerns with healthcare providers and engage in motivation building exercises



Working towards standardization and sustainability of PSGs in health facilities



Work with community structures and local donors to mobilize and distribute nutrition support for patients and link them to social schemes

Monitor the number of patients attending PSGs and successfully completing treatment



Data from July 2019- March 2020

143

PSGs established in Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

98.6%

facilities conducted PSG meetings

40.4%

of meetings attended by a medical officer

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